NĀNAK BĀṆĪ

Volume I

interpreted in free verse

HARJEET SINGH GILL

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Vol I

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for Danielle Gill,
our children and grandchildren
Sandrine, Anila, Eric Vikramjeet
Jaspal, Nilam, Aalia, Ishaan …

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FOREWORD

In Nānak Bānī Professor Harjeet Singh Gill has interpreted in free verse the compositions of Guru Nānak (1469-1539). These are meditations and reflections of Guru Nānak which form a major part of the Adi Granth composed in classical Indian rāgās. Within the dialectics of anthropology and cosmology and within the parameters of metonymic observations of the religious and the profane world, there is a certain metaphoric articulation, a certain divine communication in a language that is both simple and transparent, both allegoric and transcendental.

Translation from one language to another is a very difficult task. In fact, it is an impossible exercise. The music of word and thought, the rhythm and resonance of the universe of conceptual discourse of one language can never be communicated in another idiom. And yet, throughout the history of ideas, across different cultures, translated texts have played a very important role. The excellence and also the inadequacy of the translation is an invitation to the discerning reader to the domain of the rhythmic reverberations of the original text. Maybe these interpretations will serve this purpose!

S. S. Boparai
Vice-Chancellor

Punjabi University, Patiala, 2007.

PREFACE

Translating from any language to another is a very difficult task and interpreting the transcendental resonance and rhythm of *Nānak Bānī* in English free verse was not going to be easy. I had made such an attempt earlier in *Bābā Nānak* and the exercise was appreciated by eminent scholars who were sensitive to the rhythm of the English language. I set myself to *interpret* and not to translate the extremely lucid and rhythmic verses of Guru Nānak in *free verse*, to make an attempt at communicating the conceptual constructs of the Guru in a language that should both be simple and effective, and to recreate a universe of cosmological reverberations by means of anthropological allegories.

The hymns follow the same order as they do in the Ādi Granth, presented in Professor Taran Singh's *Guru Nānak Bāni Prakāsh,* Punjabi University, Patiala, 1969-70. This work was also often consulted for specific interpretations…The French version of *ı̣īNānak Bān* prepared by Dr Danielle Gill is being released separately… The revised edition of *Bābā Nānak* serves as an introduction.

Being conscious of the fact that even the best interpretation/translation is only an approximation, I follow the Sikh prayer, *iā likhiā, bhul chuk, muāf karnāḥpar*. I crave for the Guru's indulgence, and above all, for his forgiveness, for the Guru alone can articulate his discourse in its multiple aspects of formal and conceptual constitution…In any case, no interpretation/translation can ever replace the sacred *Guru Bāṇī* or the *Guru Shabad* with its cosmic reverberations in rhythm and resonance.

I am grateful to the Punjabi University, Patiala, its distinguished Vice-Chancellor, Padam Shri S. S. Boparai, and Dr Parmbakhshish Singh, the Registrar, for the award of Senior Fellowship and the facilities provided for the preparation and the publication of these volumes…HSG.

JAPUJĪ

JAPUJĪ

let us meditate on
the One
the Eternal
the True
the Creator
beyond fear or faction
beyond time or space
beyond being or becoming
perceived by the grace of the Guru

True in the beginning
True through the ages
True in the present
Nānak, True, He will ever be !

His truth is beyond all reflection
beyond all silences and abstentions
His perception is beyond all hunger and thirst
beyond all projections and pretensions
how can we arrive at His truth ?
how can this wall of ignorance be removed ?
Nānak, one must live in His will
in His nature, in His order ! (1)

in His will
are created forms
in His will
are life and grandeur
nobility and servility are due to Him
there are some who are graced
and other who suffer for ever

in His will
is every one
beyond it
there is none
Nānak, he who comprehends His will brags not ! (2)

some sing His praise for His omniscience
and some celebrate His plenitude
some sing His praise for His noble deeds
and some celebrate His wisdom and thought
some sing His praise for His dispensation and destruction
and some celebrate His creation and consumption
some sing His praise, for He is inaccessible
and some celebrate His eternal presence
there is no limit to His manifestation
there are millions who sing
and millions wo describe Him
He is the eternal benevolence
the devotees change from place to place
through the ages, He has sustained all
Nānak, all moves depend upon His will
and all life follows His wondrous disposition ! (3)

the righteous Lord
who dwells in Truth
love is His language of meditation
His benevolence, His benediction
what can we offer in His majestic audience ?
words of love and affection
can alone adorn His omniscience
in the serenity of the dawn
are offered the hymns of devotion
His grace endows us with form
His benevolence leads to eternal salvation
Nānak, this is the righteous path of truth and transcendence ! (4)

beyond construction or constitution
in His will is His projection, His perception
His devotee is bestowed with His benevolence
Nānak, she vibrates with His music
with His magnificence

let us sing and listen
and tune in the melody of love
let us shed our miseries
and enter the house of bliss

with the grace of the Guru
we hear music
with the grace of the Guru
we acquire knowledge

the Guru is all pervasive
the Guru is Ishvar
the Guru is Gorakh, Brahma
the Guru is Pārvatī Māī

even if I knew
I cannot describe
words and thoughts
do not coincide

the Guru has revealed the mystery of the One
on whom depend all dispensation
I must never forget His manifestation ! (5)

in His will are sacred baths
beyond His will are all farce
in His will is all creation
beyond His will there is no salvation
if in the will of the Guru
a Sikh wavers not
there are pearls and diamonds
in his wisdom and thought

the Guru has revealed the mystery of the One
on whom depend all dispensation
I must never forget His manifestation ! (6)

if one lives for four ages
and extends it to tenfold
if he is known in nine regions
and all follow his hold
if he has a glorious name
and is famous all over

but if he is fallen from His grace
he is no more
he is the lowest of the lowest
a beast, a bastion of all blames

Nānak, He transforms the simplest
into the most talented
and the talented reach the heights of sublimation
but there is none
who can add to His excellence, His formation ! (7)

listen in for the truth
of siddh, pīr, sur, nāth
listen in for the truth
of the earth, the bull and the sky
the regions, the spheres and the underworld
listen in to transcend Time and Death

Nānak, the listeners are ever in tune with Him
listen in to eradicate all misery and sin ! (8)

listen in for the truth
of Ishvar, Brahma and Indira
listen in to transform sinners into singers

listen in to comprehend
His mysteries and manners
listen in to reach the innermost depths of knowledge

Nānak, the listeners are ever in tune with Him
listen in to eradicate all misery and sin ! (9)

listen in for truth, temperance and knowledge
listen in for reflection and perception
listen in for steady concentration and convention

Nānak, the listeners are ever in tune with Him
listen in to eradicate all misery and sin ! (10)

listen in for the revelation of truth
listen in to acquire the state of
sheikh, pīr, pātshāh
listen in to be on the righteous coarse
listen in to discern His sublime discourse

Nānak, the listeners are ever in tune with Him
listen in to eradicate all misery and sin ! (11)

believe in to be in a state of transcendence
a state beyond all pretence
no prayer, no pen, no scribe
can delineate the state of His belief

believe in is a state of absolute purity
only a believer can achieve that serenity ! (12)

believe in to crystallise your perception
believe in to apprehend the entire universe
believe in to surmount all illusions
believe in that Death may not demand submission

believe in is a state of absolute purity
only a believer can achieve that serenity ! (13)

believe in to lead the righteous path
believe in to step in with honour and glory
believe in to follow the straight and the narrow
believe in to discern His truth and transcendence

believe in is a state of absolute purity
only a believer can achieve that serenity ! (14)

believe in to reach the door of salvation
believe in for all preservation
believe in for the harmony of the Guru and the Sikh
Nānak, believe in to escape all dependence

believe in is a state of absolute purity
only a believer can achieve that serenity ! (15)

the listeners, the believers, the elders
are honoured in His audience
they are accepted and counted
they embellish the company of the kings
they are ever tuned to the Word of the Guru
but their words and thoughts do not coincide
His infinite deeds are beyond their mind

the bull of Dharma, the son of dispensation
patiently and steadily follows the Order
one can never estimate the weight on the bull
there is one earth after another

there is no end to His universe
none can support His enormous pressure

the races, the castes, the colours are infinite
and beyond all description
only he who attempts realises their extension
who can fathom
His energy, His form, His compassion ?
His one Word led to infinit expansion
to the flow of endless waters

His wondrous nature is beyond all reflection
beyond any attempt at comprehension
what He wills is the righteous path
He is the eternal Nirankār ! (16)

infinite are the meditations
and infinite are the devotions
infinite are the rituals
and infinite are their recitations
infinite are the yogīs
and infinite are their renunciations
infinite are the devotees
and infinite are the thinkers
infinite are the seekers of truth
and infinite are the sages
infinite are the gallant warriors
and infinite are those who face danger and death
infinite meditate in silence
and infinite sit in eternal contemplation

His wondrous nature is beyond all reflection
beyond every attempt at comprehension
what He wills is the righteous path
He is the eternal Nirankār ! (17)

infinite are the fools
wo live in the darkest recesses
infinite are the thieves
who loot and plunder
and infinite are those
who remain always under
infinite are the criminals
who kill and murder
infinite are the sinners
who sin and suffer
and infinite are those
who live in dirt and squalor
infinite are involved in stinking deeds
and infinite are those
who indulge in rage and rancour
thus reflects Nānak on the affairs of this world

His wondrous nature is beyond all reflection
beyond every attempt at comprehension
what He wills is the righteous path
He is the eternal Nirankār ! (18)

infinite are the names
and infinite are the places
infinite are the regions and spheres
they are all beyond the reach of the seers

with words we compose music
we sing His hymns
with words we acquire knowledge
we articulate our perceptions
with words we communicate
we arrive at His projections
with words we establish eternal unions
we present our reflections

in His Word is every creation
in His Word is every relation
all acts follow His dictate
His Word saturates every state

His wondrous nature is beyond all reflection
beyond every attempt at comprehension

what he wills is the righteous path
He is the eternal Nirankār ! (19)

hands, feet and body
drenched in dirt
are cleansed with water
and soiled clothes
are washed with soap
but only meditation cleanses the stinking sinner

sin and service leave their traces for ever
as you sow
so do you reap
Nānak, as He wills
so is there advent and end ! (20)

rituals and renunciations
charities and recitations
are only outer manifestations
but listening and believing
devotion and love
cleanse the inner self

before Thy benevolence and beatitude
I can only offer my servitude

bereft of Thy blessing
there is no devotion, no meditation

Thou art the Word
Thou art the Utterance
Thou art the Creation
the universe is an expression

of Thy beatitude and benediction

who knows the time, the hour
the day, the week
the season, the month
when it all came to be

the brahmans have not located the time in the Purāṇ
the qāzīs have not mentioned the hour in the Qurān
the yogīs know not the day, the week, the season, the month
only the Creator knows the hour of His creation

how can I discern and discourse
divide and describe
Nānak, each claims to be the wisest of the scribes

the Lord is great
as He wills
so it is done
Nānak, he who pretends to know
is lost in the row ! (21)

there are millions of underworlds
and no count of skies
the Vedas searched in vain
and came to the same refrain
some have counted eighteen thousand
some more
there can be no count
there can only be delusions
Nānak, He alone can discern His own dimensions ! (22)

descriptions and discourses
lead not to knowledge
rivers and streams get lost in the ocean
reflections and perceptions do not attain His projections

a Sultān with sway over seven seas
and mountains of gold
compares not with the smallest insect
who forgets not his Lord ! (23)

there is no limit to His description, His discourse
there is no limit to His deeds, His dispensation

there is no limit to His perception, His projection
there is no limit to His reflection, His selection

there is no limit to His form
there is no beginning, no norm

many have attempted to reach His limits
they are all lost in His infinite
His form is beyond all perception
beyond all count and conception

the great Lord resides at higher planes
greater is His name
only He who rises to His level can perceive Him

He alone knows His abode
Nānak, all grace is within His mode ! (24)

His compassion is beyond all description
His generosity is beyond all prescription

many a gallant warrior is at His door
one cannot count the seekers' rows
many are stuck in their ambitious muck

there are many who find and forget
and there are fools who never regret
there are the ones whose lot is hunger, thirst and misfortune
this too is within His will and boon

fetters and freedom are in His will
none can alter His order
he who goes beyond His will
he alone suffers His mill
He knows what is in store
others can say no more
Nānak, he is made the King of all kings

who is in tune with Him and sings ! (25)

precious are the virtues
and precious is their reception
precious are the traders
and precious is their conception
precious things are received
and precious is their consumption
precious is His love
and precious is His reflection

precious is the order
and precious is the court
precious is the measure
and precious is its treasure
precious is His compassion
and precious is His grace
precious are His deeds
and precious are His dictates

it is beyond all price
it is beyond all estimation
one can only realise it in meditation

there are Vedas and Purāṇas
there are infinite readings and discourses
there are Brahma, Indra, Gopī and Govind
but none can reach Him

there are Ishvar and siddhās
there are many buddhās
demons and gods
noblemen and sages
all describe His images

many attempt to perceive Him
all leave in despair
one group follows another
but none is able to repair

as He wills, so it is done
Nānak, He alone knows His truth
man tries in vain
fool of fools, insane ! (26)

imagine the wondrous abode
where the protector of all resides
where the musicians sing
where the hymns vibrate
where different tunes adore His state

all sing Thy praise
the air, the water, the fire
Dharamrāj in His palace
with Chitra and Gupta
the keepers of deeds and duties

there are, Ishar, Brahma, Devī
all sing in unison
Indra on his throne
gods in His attendance
the siddhās in meditation
the sages in deep thought

the disciples, the ascetics
the seekers of truth
and the brave warriors
all are tuned to the same hymn
the brahmans, the rishīs
throughout the ages sing along
the maidens fair
and the creatures of the underworld
join the chorus

the most precious
the sixty-eight pilgrimages
the valiant soldiers
in the four corners of the universe
in all spheres and centres
sing Thy praise

they alone can sing
who follow Thy will
Thy devotees are ever in tune
there are so many others one can count not

Nānak, they all enjoy the same boon

He is the everlasting truth
the true Lord
Truth is His designation

He is
He will ever be
the Creator of the universe
as He wills
so it is done
none dare oppose Him

the King of all kings
Nānak, in His will are all things ! (27)

let your earrings be of patience
your begging bowl of hard work
and your ashes of meditation

the fear of death
your rags
the purity of mind
your yogic order
and faith in Him
your staff of a pilgrim

in every class
in every creed
the victory over mind
is the victory in deed

salutations to the highest
whose form is sublime

who has no beginning, no end
who is present through the ages ! (28)

with truth and transcendence
the cosmic music vibrates in the universe

the austerities, the miracles
are all wanton waste
the nāths, the siddhās
must follow His dictate
as He wills
so is union and separation
it all depends upon deeds and devotion

salutation to the Highest
whose form is sublime
who has no beginning, no end
who is present through the ages ! (29)

from one mother is born the order of the universe
with three disciples
the creator, the protector, the destroyer

as He wills
so it is realised
all follow His command
His vision surveys all
yet He is invisible
it is a strange spectacle

salutations to the Highest
whose form is sublime
who has no beginning, no end
who is present through the ages ! (30)

in every cosmos is His abode
in all spheres there is even mode
the Creator transcends His creation
Nānak, His truth saturates every action

salutations to the Highest
whose form is sublime
who has no beginnine, no end
who is present through the ages ! (31)

if there are millions of tongues
vibrating His name
there will be one eternal verse
of the Lord of the universe

many a step leads to His path
but only a few reach His abode
the tales of heaven
lure many a lowly rogue

Nānak, His grace alone can lead us there
duplicities and divisions
are dissolved in His divine discourse! (32)

one cannot force
word or silence
request or receiving

one cannot force
thought or perception
system or salvation

Nānak, He alone has the will
to frame and force
as He desires
so it is ordained ! (33)

seasons, periods, nights and days
wind, water, fire and earth
form the temple of His gaze
there are all kinds of colour and life
there are infinite names

with deeds and devotion
the Truth of the True prevails
and the five chosen shine
the false and the true are differentiated
Nānak, thus is His judgement enunciated ! (34)

in Dharam Khaṇḍ there are deeds and devotions

let us describe the Gyān Khaṇḍ
where infinite are the winds, waters, fires
and infinite are the Krishnas and Maheshas
infinite are the brahmans
and infinite are the forms, colours, costumes
infinite are the spheres of deeds
and infinite are the words of wisdom
infinite are the Indras, suns and moons
and infinite are the spheres and regions
infinite are the siddhās, buddhās, nāths
and infinite are the gods and goddesses

infinite are the ways, words
infinite are those who know
and infinite are those who follow
Nānak, there is no end to the devotees' rows ! (35)

in Gyān Khaṇḍ knowledge is supreme
there are music, spectacles and celebrations

form reigns in Saram Khaṇḍ
there are created the most beautiful curves
whose forms one can articulate not
all attempts lead to deception

there are formed
consciousness, intelligence and reflection
in this cosmic domain
the surās and the siddhās
acquire wisdom and perception ! (36)

in Karam Khaṇḍ only deeds matter
where the warriors and the valiant heroes dwell
who are swayed by His grace, by His benevolence
where the devotees are immersed in His devotion
whose forms are beyond any perception
they die not, nor are they deceived
they resonate with His grace
in beatitude, they enjoy His sublime gaze

in Sach Khaṇḍ dwells the formless
radiating grace and benediction
there are infinite regions and spheres
they are all beyond the reach of the seers

there is light, there is form
as He wills, so is His norm
there is vision
there is growth
there is reflection
Nānak, its articulation is beyond all perception ! (37)

discipline is the oven
and patience is the goldsmith
with the hammer of knowledge
He strikes on the plate of intelligence

with the bellows of fear
and the fire of faith
from the pot of love
flows the nectar of piety
in the atelier of Truth
is formed the True Word

this is given to those
who are blessed
Nānak, He is ever gracious ! (38)

air is the Guru
water, the father
and, earth is our mother

in the nursing hands
of day and night
plays the whole world

He watches every good and bad deed
as we act, so do we reap

those who spend their lives
in deep thought and meditation
Nānak, they radiate with glory
and enjoy eternal salvation !

SO DAR REHRĀS
RĀG ĀSĀ

imagine the wondrous abode
where the protector of all resides
where the musicians sing
where the hymns vibrate
where different tunes adore His state

all sing Thy praise
the air, the water, the fire
Dharamrāj in His palace
with Chitra and Gupta
the keepers of deeds and duties

there are, Ishar, Brahma, Devī
all sing in unison
Indra on his throne
gods in His attendance
the siddhās in meditation
the sages in deep thought
the disciples, the ascetics
the seekers of truth
and the brave warriors
all are tuned to the same hymn
the brahmans, the rishīs
throughout the ages sing along
the maidens fair
and the creatures of the underworld
join the chorus

the most precious
the sixty-eight pilgrimages
the valiant soldiers
in the four corners of the universe
in all spheres and centres

sing Thy praise

they alone can sing
who follow Thy will

Thy devotees are ever in tune
there are so many others
one can count not
Nānak, they all enjoy the same boon

He is the everlasting Truth
the True Lord
Truth is His designation

He is
He will ever be
the Creator of the universe
as He wills
so it is done
none dare oppose Him

the King of all kings
Nānak, in His will are all things ! (1)

the eminence of Thy being
is beyond all discourses
beyond all discussions
Thy exalted self is beyond all count
beyond all measure
to articulate Thy extensions
is to merge in Thy infinite

my Lord
the highest, the most sublime sovereign
whose depths cannot be fathomed
whose cosmic horizons cannot be attained

all reflections lead to the most sublime
to the most precious

the wise, the sage attempt to comprehend the incomprehensible

with truth, meditation and reflection
the siddhās follow Thy projections

without Thy benevolence
none can reach Thy infinite
words and thoughts do not correspond
to constitute the divine discourse
to conceptualise the eternal spirit

Nānak, with the Truth of the True Lord
the devotees aspire for the absolute transcendence ! (2)

in Thy longing is life
in Thy absence is death
Thy truth is beyond all measure
beyond all forms and features
the being is thirsty for Thy grace
for Thy love
o mother, I must never forget my Lord

the True Lord is merged in His Truth
His Truth is beyond all descriptions
beyond all perceptions
the devotees' reflections, meditations
do not alter His sublimations

His being is beyond death or depression
His benevolence is beyond all conventions

none can attain His measure
His supreme grace and pleasure
His sublimity and service
His eminence and grace
His meditation and reflection
surcharge the spirit and perception

when the Lord is forgotten
when the evil spirits control the mind
Nānak, the being is forlorn
she is stuck in the eternal grind ! (3)

the being is drowned in the vast ocean
the fire of separation can never be extinguished
with every step
the downhill descent cannot be stopped
the being is stuck in the mire of deception

the Lord is forgotten
the being is doomed
temperance, truth and tranquillity have taken leave
the ignorant mind is engrossed in division and duplicity

Nānak is beholden to those who have not forgotten
His generosity, His sublimity ! (4)

SOHILĀ RĀG GAUṚĪ DĪPAKĪ

the house that resounds
with the hymns of the Lord
is the house of bliss
of divine muse
and spiritual union
sing, o devotee, the hymns of my Lord
of my Sovereign, beyond fear or ferment

He is the greatest protector
the most benevolent
the most gracious
the most charitable

the message of union has arrived
pour the ceremonial oil
celebrate the spiritual communion
the eternal bliss

the hymns of union surcharge the ambiance
the atmosphere resonates with love and devotion

Nānak, the hour of union has struck
the mind is steadied
in meditation and reflection !

RĀG ĀSĀ

of the six Shāstras
of the six discourses and disguises
there is but one perception
the discourse of the unity
is the discourse of the Guru

there are the days, the hours, the months
but there is one encompassing sun
Nānak, the Creator transcends His creation !

RĀG DHANĀSRĪ

for the divine ārti, the divine worship
the skies serve as the vast plateau
where the sun and the moon
burn as two lamps
and the stars twinkle
to lit the sky

there is the incense of the woods
and the east and the west winds
sweep the extensive spaces
with the fragrance of your garden

what a wondrous spectacle it is
what splendid worship

of the Lord of hearts and hearths
all souls vibrate with the inner music
all hearts respond to the celestial rhythm

there are millions of eyes
millions of forms
merged in one eternal form
there are millions of faces
millions of silhouettes
all form a part of the universal gaze

there are millions of lights within
pushing darkness into extreme recesses
the eternal lamp burns for ever
to worship the Lord of the universe

the little bird, papīhā, the being, is thirsty
longing for the nectar of the Guru
Nānak prays for universal peace and prosperity !

SIRĪ RĀG

SIRĪ RĀG

palaces studded with diamonds and pearls
lit with the most beautiful lamps
perfumed with the sweetest fragrance
are all illusions, all distractions
in His meditation and reflection

in separation
my heart aches
my body burns
bereft of the union with my Guru
there is no refuge, no support

the splendour of diamonds and pearls
the brightness of luxurious beds and beautiful women
lust and longings
indulgence and infatuation are all illusions

all distractions
in His meditation and reflection

endowed with all the miracles and magic
hidden in the eternal depths
these supernatural powers
are all illusions
all distractions
in His meditation and reflection

inflated in the pride of a Sultān
with armies and populace to follow
Nānak, such haughty positions
are all illusions
all distractions
in His meditation and reflection ! (1)

if I live for millions of years
sustained by air and water
if I hide myself in the darkest caves
where sun and moon never appear
I cannot attain Thee
without Thy grace, compassion and comprehension

the true Lord transcends all forms
His discourse is above all norms

if I torture my body with nails
cut my limbs with sharp knives
grind myself in burning wheels
I cannot attain Thee
without Thy grace, compassion and comprehension

if I fly like a bird in the vast spaces
remain hidden from every gaze
without eating or drinking for days
I cannot attain Thee
without Thy grace, compassion and comprehension

if I have thousands of reams of paper
unlimited ink and a fluent pen
to describe and discern my Lord
I cannot attain Thee
without Thy grace, compassion and comprehension ! (2)

all steps leave their traces
our speech, our thoughts
our dreams, our discourses
our behaviour, our breathing
Bābā, all lead to the eternal illusion
the blind do not see the truth
they are doomed for ever

within life and death
time is eternal
the mourners do not help the sinner
only the good deeds transcend this eternity
all attempt to comprehend the incomprehensible
His discourse is beyond all discernment
His truth is beyond all description
only the true Lord is eternal
the rest is all ephemeral

blessed are the poorest of the poor
Nānak resides with them
he lives their life

and bothers not about others
God's grace protects these humble creatures !(3)

greed is the dog
deception, the scavenger
the dishonest, the corrupt
devour rotten corpses
jealousy and hatred leave bad taste
and anger burns our hearts and hearths
indulging in flattery and false glory
the divine path is obliterated

Bābā, those who meditate and reflect
are honoured in His audience
where the good deeds are rewarded

evil ferments evil
the sinner is drenched in his sins
the being is doomed in lust
for gold and silver
for wealth and women

for horses and chariots

the discourse that leads to His perception
is the discourse reflected
falsity and deception
are doomed for ever
as He wills
so it is accepted
the rest is lost and infected

all honour, all treasure
are bestowed on those
who live in His will
in His order

Nānak, they are rich and happy
they need no worldly goods
no false baggage
they are honoured, they are respected

others are lost in the wilderness ! (4)

there are those who indulge
in all kinds of intoxicants
they lose all senses
all measures of truth
all accounts of life and death

and Nānak, there are others
who are blessed by the Lord
who deal in truth
who recognise the eternal verity
who serve the Almighty
who are honoured in His audience

the wine of truth is beyond all crass
it is transparent and transcendental
the devotee is beholden to those
who are blessed with His truth
who live in His truth

those who meditate on His Name
on His Form and Concept
they breathe fresh air
they bathe in pure waters
their life is sacred
their happiness is sublime

how can one forget that Master
on whom depend all dispensation ?
every thing else is impure, farce
in His will is every truth, every perception ! (5)

burn your desires
and comprehend and converse
to discourse on the Truth of the Lord
to discern His sublimity, His serenity

Bābā, let devotion be your pen
and your heart, your scribe
to discern and delineate His universe
to present your credentials in His audience

where there is reflection
there is serenity
where the mind is steady
and the heart follows the divine rhythm
there is sublimity
there is birth
there is death
there is being
there is becoming

there are those with honoured names
and there are others
who are wretched for ever

at the end they are all one
without class or creed
without wealth or greed

my being is scared
afraid of the unknown
Nānak, the sultāns and the sardārs
all submit to the final judgement
all are subjected to the eternal ferment ! (6)

in His will are all sweets, all tastes
in His meditation are all rhythms, all hymns
in His reflection are all projections, all perceptions
every other projection is bitter, beaten
that corrupts minds
that pollutes souls

in His devotion
is every dress, every splendour
in His benediction
is every grandeur
in His blessing
is every decoration
every other dress is deception
that corrupts minds
that pollutes souls

in His path
are all horses, all chariots
all silver, all gold
all arrows, all spears
all the insignia of royalty
every other path
every other chariot
corrupts minds, pollutes souls

in His peace is every peace
in His bliss is every bliss

Nānak, the true Lord transcends all norms
every other form is illusion, depression and deception
that corrupts minds
that pollutes souls ! (7)

rituals and riches
reflections and discourses
concepts and conventions
pilgrimages and purities
depend upon His will, His order

Bābā, empty logic leads nowhere
from absurd intelligence emerges ignorance
those who command respect
with force and wealth
those who perform miracles
with austerities and abstinence
are not honoured in His audience

but those who live in His will
who meditate and reflect
who are merged in His being
in His spirit
are the beloved of the Lord
they live in His eternal order

when the body decays
when all discourses are silent
when all senses are lost
the being withers
Nānak, the world is shattered
the universe is pushed into oblivion ! (8)

the talented exercises her talent
the fool spreads her ignorance
only truth and temperance lead to His bliss, to His benediction
there is no boat, no oars
how can I cross the river of separation
to reach my Lord, my eternal Love ?

my Lord is splendid on His throne
He is generous
His abode is beautiful
adorned with diamonds and pearls
there are infinite horizons
how can I attain their heights ?

with the benediction of the Guru
we acquire the boat, the oars
to cross the river
to reach the Lord
the Guru is the ocean of truth
the universe of peace
the world of serenity

Nānak, with the blessings of the Guru
one attains the sublime horizon ! (9)

come sisters
let us talk about our Lord
of His virtues and our ignorance
of His love and our indulgence
the whole world is led by Him
it is the mystery of His Word
the secret of the divine discourse

ask the brides
how they adored their loves ?
how they practiced patience and service ?
how they remained steady and sincere ?

the Guru's discourse helps us all
the Lord is supreme
His nature is a wonder
His creation is a miracle
His form is infinite
His abode is splendid
Nānak, merged in truth and love

the true Lord leads to the eternal truth
to the divine verity ! (10)
thank God I am saved
pride hath given way to humility
and the demons have been subdued
desires and lust have taken leave
the heavenly bliss has descended
and truth prevails every where
fear is replaced by love
and the heart follows the rhythm of the divine Word

there are so many seekers
so many destitutes
but there is one universal bounty
whose blessings bring peace
whose bliss brings serenity

this world is a dream
in a moment this spectacle is over
union and separation are in His hands, in His will
as He wishes, so it is done
it is all in His will, in His order
Nānak, the Guru bestows truth and tranquillity

with the blessing of the true Lord
there is serenity, there is sublimity !(11)
the devotees merge in the Lord
as different elements in a pot
the burning desire of union glows for ever
their patience, their passion
attain the ultimate truth
they are blessed
their company is a bliss
their discourse leads to the true path
to the temple of absolute truth
of divine love, of spiritual union

in the discourse of the Guru
is the salvation of the disciple
in its absence are all temptations
in the discourse of the Guru
is the purity of the mind
in its absence is all dirt and defection

the Guru's discourse is sublime
it quenches all thirst
Nānak adores that Guru

whose discourse shows His omniscience
His transcendence ! (12)

the destitute is lost
her life is deserted
like a falling wall
she has no support
bereft of the discourse of the Guru
there is no solace
no respite from sufferance
bereft of His love
all décor is doomed
there is no place for falsehood
no place for deception

he is the wise farmer
who deals in truth
who plants the right seeds
who brings peace and recognition

the one who knows her Guru
knows the ultimate truth

she is blessed
she is saved

the one who is oblivious of His presence
is lost in ignorance and infatuation
she is caught in the eternal cycle
of birth and death

all the embellishment of the bride
the ornaments, the fragrance
the bright attire
are of no avail
if the Lord is indifferent
if His blessings are not bestowed
all luxuries are evil
all indulgence is fruitless

bereft of the discourse of the Guru
there is no salvation
Nānak, in the discourse of the Guru
there is love, there is reception ! (13)

when life slips away
the body decays
the burning light extinguishes
the smoke lingers
there is mourning
there is sadness

greed and pride engulf the being
the Lord is forgotten
the mind is led astray
there is tension, there is thirst
only the Guru can save thee
from evil deeds
when life is no more
there is no desire, no distraction
no pride, no prejudice

if the Guru is gracious
the mind is held in devotion
truth and tranquillity prevail there

cutting the cycle of birth and death
Nānak, the being is honoured in His audience ! (14)

the body burns on the funeral pyre
the mind is haunted by the evil spirits
bereft of devotion
the mind is stretched in different directions

with the discourse of the Guru
the devotee crosses the river of separation
bereft of his discourse
the being is caught in the eternal cycle

the mind is purified
by the divine truth
the body is washed
by the divine nectar
in His will is the eternal peace

the eternal order

in the beginning was the truth
it led to the flow of waters
to the birth of life
to the light of love
to the rays of purity

in His will
the being acquires the right perception
Nānak, with the grace of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection ! (15)

Nānak, with the boat of Truth
and reflection on the Guru’s Word
one crosses the river of life
others revolve in the eternal cycle

the foolhardy, the manmukh, is doomed
the devotee of truth, the gurumukh, swims across
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no crossing, no salvation

on the one side
there is destruction, there is burning
on the other
there is construction
there is growth

He is the source of life and death
He is the source of all union and separation

in every breath of the devotee

is the presence of the Creator

the devotee lives in His presence
she drinks His nectar
her pride is gone
her devotion is eternal

due to Him light spreads
and darkness recedes
the devotee is enlightened
she acquires the eternal truth
the ignorant lives in darkness
in eternal confusion and wilderness

the eternal lamp burns for ever
the divine discourse is realised
the devotee is honoured
her knowledge is sublime, her truth is supreme
Nānak, her life is steady
her path is serene ! (16)

o dear friend
it is the time of union, of love
as long as you are young
there is life, there is desire
the time spent in devotion, in reflection
is the time of union
of eternal bliss

the devotee is merged in devotion
there is no place for pride and prejudice
it is the time for listening, for meditation
for reflection and comprehension

it is the time to eradicate all evil thoughts
of desire and delusion
it is the time to be with Him
with His truth and transcendence
it is not the time of deceit and deception
it is the time of reunion and reception

in His company the devotee acquires His culture
in His company the devotee attains His nature
in His company is purity and piety
in His company is steady serenity

Nānak, He prevails in the three worlds
with love and affection
the devotee realises His omniscience
in His union
there is temperance, there is transcendence ! (17)

there is no fear of death
no desire to live
every beat of my heart
is in the hands of my Lord
every vibration of my soul
depends upon the rhythm of His will

o devotee
meditate and reflect on His nature
on His culture
to eradicate ignorance
to gain knowledge
of His truth
of His transcendence

the Guru dispels all doubts
all evil thoughts of life and death
of longings and lust

the rhythm of His music

vibrates in every beat of the universe
in every breath of the devotee

in the devotion of the Guru is your life well-spent
in His audience is all honour
in His audience is the union of all impulses

body and mind
spirit and soul
are united in Him
are immersed in the sublime Being

if the mind is steady
and the reflection is serene
there is peace, there is projection
there is divine perception
Nānak, there is bliss
there is the extinction of all misery and sin ! (18)

the mind is stuck in greed and lust
the Guru's Word is forgotten
the evil thoughts lead to the eternal cycle
in the company of the Guru
there is the treasure of virtues
there is the absence of pride and prejudice
in His will is peace and patience
in His service is honour and respect

day and night there is meditation
there is reflection
there are all the pleasures of body and soul
there is service, there is serenity

the sinner is immersed in her sins
she has lost all vision
she is afflicted with miseries
the demon has smothered her

the foolhardy, the manmukh, is lost
the devotee, the gurumukh, enjoys truth and tranquillity

the ignorant, the manmukh, is engrossed
in the affairs of this world
in corrupt practices
and evil deeds
the devotee, the gurumukh, serves her Lord
and enjoys the blessings of the Guru
she forgets not her Master
she is recognised in His audience ! (19)

a moment of separation
leads to anguish, to anxiety
bereft of His blessings
there is no peace, no serenity

the Guru's union is love
in his company is virtue
chosen are those
who live in His bliss
who live in His light
in His supreme attention
in His sublime union

there is no place for haughty aggression
no place for doubts and depression
lust for the ephemeral, greed for the transient
lead the being astray
from the divine path, from the righteous deeds
the beloved longs for His love
the burning desire gives way
to union and celebration

there is bliss, there is devotion
there is love, there is affection ! (20)

in His Word is love
in His discourse is bliss
His eternal truth separates the false from the true
His presence is a treasure full of diamonds and pearls
the Guru is the purest diamond
his discourse leads to the transcendent
to the sublime union
those who deal in truth are never forgotten
their fire is extinguished, their thirst is quenched
they are beyond the reach of the demon
they swim across the river of life
they resonate in His sublime light

those who live in truth
live in love and union
in all the riches of the world
there is no treasure
richer than the love of the Lord

purer than the union with the Master ! (21)

roaming around in different lands
the being moves from one confusion to another
the inner dirt remains dark
life is laden with sin and suffering
bereft of the discourse of the Guru
there is no reflection, no perception

the inner fire must be extinguished
with meditation and reflection
the Guru’s Word discerns truth and transcendence
in His will is all serenity
in His will is peace and prosperity
in His will is all bliss, all honour

the being is dissolved
the pride melts away
those who go astray

are lost for ever
are doomed to darkness

this life is precious
this meditation is a treasure
in His union is love
in His vision is comprehension
in His order
the being swims across the river of life
she is honoured
she perceives the divine light ! (22)

those who deal in truth
retain the precious treasure
their profit stays for ever
for the Lord knows the right from the wrong
the false from the true

stay with truth my friend
it leads to eternal virtue, to eternal bliss
those who deal in deceit and deception
they are never happy
they live in eternal agitation
like a deer caught in a net
they always live in separation
in dejection, in depression

deception has no place, no caste, no creed
it is destined to face ignominy

Nānak, the discourse of the Guru
discerns the truth from falsity

in its meditation is every virtue
in its reflection is eternal serenity ! (23)

all these riches and rituals
all this wealth and youth
are ephemeral, a matter of days
there is nothing to be proud of
there is nothing that lasts for ever
it is the time for meditation and reflection
for recitation and reception

many a friend is already gone
lying buried in cemeteries
o young, beautiful girl
think of your in-laws, of your future
your Lord will love
only your virtue and your truth
spend your time in His love
in His affection
in good deeds
in His sublime reflection ! (24)

He is the jouissance
He is the indulgence
He is the body
He is the bed
He is the joy incarnate

He is the fish
He is the fisherman
He is the net
He is the bait
He is in every play
in every pearl
He is the eternal lover

He is the lake
He is the swan
He is the seeker
He is the sought ! (25)

let your body be the soil
your good deeds, the seeds
and meditation, your water
be the farmer of the Lord
and raise the crop of virtue

shed all pride and lust
your parents, your women, your children
will all be left behind
stuck in the eternal grind

weed out all your evil thoughts
live a life of steady and serene ideas
live under the shadow of the inevitable death
discern the sacred texts
to recognise the eternal Lord
for the merger of the seeker and the sought ! (26)

sow good deeds in your fields
and irrigate them with the water of truth
be a farmer with faith in Him
you need not bother about hell and heaven
about this or the other world

clever chat will lead you nowhere
wasting your youth in ambition and desire
you will lose your very being
your very attire

evil thoughts breed evil
dirt leads to more dirt
the pure lotus is not recognised
the truth of love is lost
indulging in wealth and women
there is no peace, no projection

those who live in His will
live in His truth
they find the sublime refuge

all these austerities and abstentions
all these ritual prayers and ceremonies
lead you astray
all these riches, all these pearls
are a matter of days
under the shadow of death
all wealth and hearth are washed away ! (27)

He alone is the Maula, the Master
who is the Creator of all humanity
all beings, animate and inanimate
who has put together all elements
to create new forms, new lives

o mullah, the priest
the end awaits us all
live in His will, in His order
to avoid all misery and fall
o mullah, o qāzī
you deserve to be a priest
if you live in His knowledge, in His discourse
all your learning, all your rituals
will lead to depression, dejection and remorse

a qāzī is he who lives in His meditation, in His reflection
meditate on the Truth of the True Lord
your five prayers
and your learned discourses
are of no avail

when the last hour strikes
when the end is announced ! (28)
the greedy dog has taken over
led by the bitches of depression
they bark day and night
there is a dagger to kill and rotten corpses to eat

bereft of His will and bliss
the being has taken awful form
only His blessing can save the humanity
this is the only support, only hope

burnt in hatred and jealousy
passion and anger, loot and plunder
the being leads the life of a scavenger
in the garb of a faqīr
there are deceits and evil deeds
the being has become a thief, a thug
the more he hankers after
the more he is drenched in dirt

the ungrateful being is tortured
he dare not appear in His audience

bereft of all support and bliss
the scavenger is lost for ever ! (29)

all knowledge is due to Him
all discernment is due to His will
as He knows, so He acts
there is but one measure for all deeds
there is no place for clever chat

all dispensation is due to His blessing
due to His compassion
it is all His creation
His conception
His convention

His benevolence is transparent
His kindness knows no limit
acts and intentions go together
without good deeds there is no salvation

he has the knowledge
who knows his Master
his acts are supreme

his words are serene ! (30)

Thou art the ocean of knowledge
I am but a small fish
how can I apprehend
Thy vast dimensions
Thy innumerable conceptions

I know not the fisherman
I know not the boat
Thou art my only refuge
my only support
I cannot fathom the depths of Thy benevolence
the heights of Thy transcendence

Thou art omniscient
Thou art gracious
I am ignorant, I am indulgent
Nānak, I pray, I beseech
I lay myself at Thy feet
I reflect, I meditate
I yearn for Thy love
Nānak, to see, to perceive, to comprehend

all depends upon Thy will
Thy benevolence, Thy benediction ! (31)

in His will is all bounty
in His will is all charity

if He wills, there is construction
if He wills, there is destruction
He is the Truth, the Verity
the being is lost in ignominy

he who sows knows his plants
their nature, their culture
their flowers, their seeds
as you sow
so do you reap

the false wall is constructed in ignorance
the fool's acts have no base
Nānak, in His will is all truth
all wisdom, all discourse ! (32)

what has to happen
will happen
His will cannot be altered
His order cannot be changed

there is no light without oil
one must discern and describe
the wisdom of the sacred texts
one must realise the eternal truth

this is the oil that makes the lamp burn
it gives light and comprehension
it leads to the righteous path
to the truth of the Lord

Nānak, this world is ephemeral
this life is short
in His grace
is all humility
all service

all serenity ! (33)

SIRĪ RĀG
MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ GHAR PAIHLĀ
AṢṬPADĪÃ

in the hymn of my Lord
is the music of His transcendence
infinite are the singers
infinite, the musicians
and infinite are the devotees who resonate with His rhythms

sacred is His name
sacred is His demure
sacred is His parole

Bābā, none can decipher His will
His dimensions, His extensions
many a poet struggled in vain

to arrive at His perception
to discern His projection
the pīrs, the prophets, the men of God
the sheikhs, the sardārs
the qāzīs, the mullahs, the faqīrs
all are at His door
all pray for His blessings
for His benediction

His discourse is beyond all perception
His creation is beyond all description
His benevolence, His bounty
surcharge every direction
His dwelling is known to none
His demure is beyond all horizon
there is eternal sublimity
there is serene infinity
none can reach His limit
none can perceive His infinite

Nānak, His benediction, His benevolence
surcharge the lives of all those who live in His will
in His love and grace

in His dispensation
in His devotion ! (1)
they are all the beloveds of the Lord
they are bejewelled to please their Love
dressed in the dark red of love and passion
perfumed with the finest fragrance
shedding all deceit and deception
the beloveds yearn for His love
for His union

the Guru's Word is the sublime fragrance
it is the veritable discourse of love
it leads to His union
to His truth

the bride vibrates with His love
she aches for His union
for the union of hearts
for the celebration of love and longings
that is pure and transparent
that is steadfast
in faith and fortitude
there is perception

there is reception
of eternal truth, of sublime verity
His demure is fragrant with sandal wood
His temple is lit with the light of His discourse

He bestows His grace
on the most devoted, on the most talented
on the one who is engrossed in His nature
who lives in His culture
who meditates on absolute verity
who reflects upon eternal sublimity
whose faith and fortitude
transcend all ambiguity

in this dark and dangerous night
His light removes all ignorance
in this forlorn wilderness
His discourse is the sublime light

bereft of His love, bereft of His union
the body aches, the youth withers
Nānak, the beloved awaits for her Love
to awaken her from the eternal sleep of ignorance

from the desolate state of her inner conflicts and confusions
from her depression ! (2)

my love, my Lord
Thy dimensions are known to none
only Thou can articulate Thy discourse
Thou art the diamond
Thou art the measure of Thy treasure
Thou art the truth incarnate
Thy grace, Thy charity
are imbibed in Thy being
Thou art the eternal Creator
as Thou will
so it is followed
Thy name, Thy truth are hallowed

Thou art the purest diamond
Thou art the loveliest of hues
the pearls of Thy grace adorn Thy devotees

in the depths of Thy ocean
the devotees seek Thy support
on the path of truth
the Guru's Word is the only hope

the fear of the unknown engulfs the timid
bereft of the blessing of the Guru
it is all dark, all depression

only the Creator is eternal
the rest is all ephemeral
only He is transparent
others are suspended in ignorance
the Guru's grace saves the innocent
they are all held by His omniscience

in the recognition of the Guru's Word
is the truth revealed
in His perception
is all purity, all sublimity

in His grace
is all truth, all temperance

those who dwell in truth
live in His bliss
it is the only merit
it is the only measure

in the trade of truth
is all profit, all provision
in the union of the Lord
is all prayer, all devotion

the highest of the highest Lord
leads to eternal sublimity
Nānak, in His vision
there is transcendence, there is tranquillity ! (3)

the fish did not perceive the danger of the net
nor did she fathom the depth of the ocean
innocent, intelligent though she was
she could not differentiate the benediction from the bait
her delusions let her down
her fate let her drown

o dear friend, time is eternal
the fish, the net, the illusions
are the inevitable delusions

the whole world is stuck in time
in its infernal sway
without the benediction of the Guru
one cannot get away

live in truth
in its certitude and eternity
shed all doubts and ambiguity
hail the true Lord

His serenity and sublimity

the Guru's grace saves the bird
from the net of delusions
saves the being
from the wall of illusions
bereft of His grace
there is no support
no hope

worship the truth of the true Lord
and celebrate His sublime vision
those who live in truth
live in His will
the ignorant is engrossed in her ignorance
the truth of the transcendent is forgotten
is pushed into oblivion

pray to His vision, to His virtue
to His truth, to His transcendence
in His union is peace
in His union is prosperity

live in His meditation, in His reflection
His bliss bestows truth and tranquillity

bereft of the Guru's grace
the being is led from darkness to depression
from bitterness to oppression

the Guru's grace leads us to meditation and reflection
to projection and perception
where death does not haunt the devotees of the Lord
where the fear of the unknown is gone
where there is union of the seeker and the sought
my Lord, my Love
Thou art my support
Thou art the union of hearts

the Guru's Word leads to the right perception
to the ultimate transcendence
where there is no fear, depression or death
no fear of separation or seclusion
His will surveys all
His order is the order of the whole universe

Nānak, in His Truth is all truth
the rest is all false, all ephemeral ! (4)

the whole atmosphere is polluted
the body, the mind
are all stuck in lies, in dirt
only the Guru's Word can cleanse
the dirt of the mind and the soul
there is no happiness for the wretched
there is no bliss without His will
my Love is away in far away lands
this separation is awful
like a fish without water
it suffers the eternal curse

all peace is in His peace
all bliss is in His bliss
all truth is in His truth

in His union is love
in His union is fragrance
in His union is faith

in His union is fortitude

without my Love there is no peace
whether one is with her parents or the parents-in-law
whether one is at home or in the wilderness
the beloved of the Lord is at peace with herself
she enjoys His bliss and blessing

bereft of His love
the heart aches
the body withers

the astrologer cannot predict the union
his discourses lead nowhere
it is all the illusion of the mind
the delusion of the soul
lies and half-truths lead to desolation
to desertion and depression

bereft of the blessing of the Guru
there is no salvation
there is no truth, no tranquillity

Nānak, in His union is truth and temperance
in His discourse is resurrection and recompense ! (5)

austerities and abstinences
pilgrimages and prayers
charities and rituals
are of no avail
if the truth of the True is not recognised

in His peace
is the peace of the beloved
shedding all lust and longing
the beloved prays for His union

the trader trades in false commodities
his business is the business of crass
the truth of the self is forgotten
the discourse of the Guru is set aside

the false profits, the false gains
lure the gullible
the precious gift of love

is left behind

o wretched being
trade in truth
converse and comprehend the discourse of truth
stay with the traders of truth
with the traders of love and union
His truth is eternal
His love is fraternal

those who know His truth
live in peace and prosperity
live in truth and tranquillity
they know the Sovereign of the three worlds
their heart vibrates with His truth

they enjoy His bliss
who know their Lord
whose only luxury is the luxury of His company

she is the happy bride
who hath pleased her Lord

who is not lost in wilderness
who is not fallen in grace

in the wilderness of separation
there is meditation, there is reflection
the heart beats for His love and affection

the travellers know not the right path
the servants know not their Master
those who know, those who follow His dictates
Nānak, they live in His will
they enjoy the divine bliss ! (6)

the grace of the Guru
brings purity of mind and body
in this divine sublimity
resides the true Lord
it brings temperance and tranquillity
it removes the fear of death and debility

o dear friend
live in His purity
in His truth
He is the purity incarnate
all else is dirt and delusion

the temple of the Lord is sublime
it is lit with sun and moon
stars and planets
it is transparent in the three worlds
its meditation is a treasure

its reflection is the greatest measure

the discourse of the Guru brings purity and piety
it leads to the sublime knowledge
of His infinity
of His serenity
it unfolds all mysteries
it leads to the ultimate verity

the discourse of the Guru is the eternal measure
of hearts and hearths
of this and the other world
the false and the true are differentiated
the treasure of virtue and hope
is discerned from desolation and despair

the devotees yearn for His bliss
they pray to eradicate all misery and sin
comfort and conflict negotiate the divine path
the Vedas, the sacred texts
all reflect on human condition

the devotee arrives at His truth
with her patience, with her perception

with the devotion of the devotee
with her faith and fortitude
the Truth of the True prevails
the whole humanity, the whole universe
the four ages, the eternal seasons

those who live in His will
those who search for the infinite
are ever blessed
their thirst is quenched
their hunger is gone
Nānak, the purity of the absolute Pure
saturates every being
every creature of His universe ! (7)

o ignorant mind
seek the succour of the Guru
in His reflection is all truth, all tranquillity
in His meditation the devotee transcends death and delusion
the conflict is resolved
there is divine perception
His discourse is the ultimate treasure
the ultimate measure

the discourse of the Guru leads to the eternal union
in its ignorance are all miseries, all misconceptions

I must never forget my Lord, my Love
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no comfort, no compassion

the ignorant being withers
like a crow in a forlorn house
like a seed in a deserted land
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no peace, no prosperity
no truth, no tranquillity

when the Word of the Guru
saturates the mind of the devotee
when the grace of the Guru
brings union and love
the devotee lives in purity
in the sublime vision of her deity

the Word of the Guru removes
all anger and hunger
all tribulations and temptations
it leads to the eternal bliss
to the eternal life

the Word of the Guru removes all ignorance
it leads to the knowledge of the unknown
to the mystery of the mysterious

the Word of the Guru
leads to the knowledge of the self
it awakens the latent energies
it removes all pride and passion
it leads to sublime perception ! (8)

bereft of His love
bereft of His discourse
there is no union, no communion
there is no meeting, no measure
o dear friend, concentrate on His truth, on His being
reflect on His affection, on His perception

the grace of the Guru
leads to the ultimate union
to the ultimate bliss of love and longings

the discourse of the Guru
crystallises all thoughts
purifies all passions

truth and love
lead to the devotee's being
to the devotee's becoming
His truth is beyond all measure

His union is beyond all treasure

the beloved longs for His love
she vibrates with the hymns of His union
the most sublime communion
more transparent than all the pearls of the world

in this absolute flux of time and space
in this eternal cycle of birth and death
only the discourse of the Guru
is the beacon light
the guiding star

the eminence of my Lord is beyond all measure
it is beyond all trade and treasure
it is beyond all deeds and delusions

the discourse of the Guru is the most precious treasure
it is embellished by truth and temperance
by faith and fortitude
the discourse of the Guru is beyond all description
beyond all projection and prescription

Nānak, it leads to the sublimity of truth
to the resolution of all conflicts and confusions ! (9)

the benediction of the Guru
is the purest diamond
in meditation and reflection
there is purity, there is perception

all knowledge is derived
from the discourse of the Guru
Brahma, Nārad, Ved Vyās
testify to this eternal truth

in the discourse of the Guru
there is peace, there is prosperity
there is projection, there is piety
there is meditation, there is sublimity

the discourse of the Guru
leads to pristine purity
in this trade of truth
in this domain of good deeds
the Guru is gracious
the Guru is benevolent

the discourse of the Guru
leads the devotee across the river of separation
guides the devotee in every action

the discourse of the Guru
crystallises all conflicts and concepts
removes all pitfalls and obstacles
it leads the devotee from darkness to light
from confusion to comprehension

in the union of the Guru is all salvation
in his separation is all stagnation
in the union of the Guru there is no fear of death
in his love there is meditation and devotion

the discourse of the Guru
saves the devotee from wilderness
helps her cross the river of life
sets her on the righteous sight

the discourse of the Guru
brings light in the eternal darkness
it changes the course of history
the dictates of time

Nānak, the discourse of the Guru
bestows beatitude and benevolence
the divine truth and transcendence ! (10)

in the ideal of love, my friend
follow the lotus on water
follow their union, their relation
their indifference to waves
to the movements of the currents
it is the water of life
it is the water of spiritual vision

in the ideal of love, my friend
follow the chātrik, in quest of the drop of rain
the little bird that longs for the nectar of life
all freshness, all greenery
is due to this celestial drop
this heavenly bliss

in the ideal of love, my friend
follow the union of milk and water
the inseparable mixture
the perfect blending

in the ideal of love, my friend
follow the chakwī's longing for the sun
the little bird's longing for the rays sublime

the discourse of the Guru
sheds light in the dark dungeons
brings knowledge to the abyss of ignorance
the grace of the Guru
brings peace and prosperity
serenity and sublimity

our time is in flux
like the birds in flight
our life is ephemeral
like the fading light

bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no peace, no perception
bereft of the grace of the Guru
the being is ensnared in the net of conflict and confusion

the discourse of the Guru
leads to the ultimate knowledge
to the celestial honour
to the sublime hour
of union and love

Nānak, the ignorant, the indulgent
is lost in the darkest depths
of separation and oblivion
in the eternal confusion
of conflict and contention ! (11)

the ignorant indulges in her ignorance
she is lost in the blind alleys of darkness
the discourse of the Guru is forgotten
she knows not what to do, what to follow
she is lost in the illusions of māyā
in the depths of superstitions

she has lost the righteous path
the path of spiritual life
her separation from the divine is acute
her state of mind is miserable
the truth of the True Lord is under the shadow of falsity
the divine dictates are forgotten
the sublime will is set aside

the discourse of the Guru is not followed
pride and prejudice have taken over
the haughty mind knows no discipline
it does not follow the divine projection

the mystery of truth and love
is in His discourse, in His will
the mystery of divine knowledge is revealed
in the innermost layers of the self

in the discourse of the Guru
there is light, there is serenity
when the devotee sheds her foolish assertions and perceptions
there is purity, there is lucidity
there is the knowledge of the ultimate verity

in the grace of the Guru
the truth is revealed
and the falsehood recedes
the darkness of ignorance gives way
to the light of knowledge
to the transcendence of truth
the populace is lost in ignorance
in sins and sufferance
the Guru is resplendent in truth, in transcendence
Nānak, when the truth is realised

when the darkness of ignorance recedes
there is reflection, there is sublime perception ! (12)
the delusions of family and friends
of wealth and women
of pride and prejudice
lead the being astray
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no support, no sway

in the discourse of the Guru
the divine mystery is revealed
the truth of the True Lord is perceived

all appearance is illusion
all indulgence is delusion
in the discourse of the Guru
the devotee is on the righteous path
she discerns the right from the wrong
the true from the false
the discourse of the Guru
is the ultimate measure
is the sublime verity
the discourse of the Guru

leads to steady serenity
to divine sublimity
the discourse of the Guru
crystallises the spiritual journey
it bestows on the devotee
the knowledge of verity

bereft of the grace of the Guru
the devotee is led astray
she is caught in the illusions of māyā
all hopes are dashed
all aspirations lead to the blind alley

the discourse of the Guru
purifies the impure
enlightens the ignorant
pride and prejudice give way to truth and transcendence

the Lord of the sky and the underworld
the Lord of the three universes
bestows grace and benevolence on the devotee
who is not oblivious of her Guru
who is not lost in wilderness ! (13)

immersed in His meditation
the devotee is at peace with herself
with the discourse of the Guru
there is steady serenity
the being lives in His will and verity

in His meditation and reflection
there is divine perception
there is cosmic celebration

all the ceremonies
the burning of fires
the sacrifices, the charities
the deeds, the devotions
are of no avail
bereft of His will
bereft of His bliss
there is no salvation

the austerities, the human sacrifices

the hardships, the bodily tortures
do not help the restless soul
nothing replaces the divine meditation
the spiritual reflection
the abominable show of wealth and pride
the forced charities
the offerings of cows and cattle
serve no purpose
the self stays restless and tortured

absurd logic, sterile discourses
shed no light on the truth of the Lord
the Word of the Guru alone
can help the ignorant soul

live in His will
in His truth
truth alone is the guiding star
the measure of divine perception
there is no high, no low
where there is equality
where there is fraternity
there is light

there is love
there is the grace of the eternal Lord

in the company of the men of God
in the company of the sādhus and the seers
there is serenity
there is tranquillity

the discourse of the Guru
sheds light on the unknown
on the mystery of the most mysterious
it is the divine nectar
it is the ultimate truth

the discourse of the Guru
vibrates with the hymns of sublimity
there is music
there is celebration

Nānak, he who comprehends its verity
lives in His will
in His divine order
in His eternal perceptivity ! (14)

the splendour of the palaces
the celebration of the bodies
are sterile, sordid
bereft of love and meditation
the outer selves are empty
hollow edifices

o dear friend
all this wealth, all this health
is wanton waste
bereft of His grace
there is no peace, no prosperity

His meditation is the greatest treasure
His reflection is the greatest measure
only good deeds and divine devotion
are accepted in His audience
are honoured in His presence

wealth and women
family and friends
lead to sheer decadence
only the discourse of the Guru
can purify their essence

wandering in the jungles
leads to the wilderness of the mind
meditation and reflection
dwell in the inner self
in the depths of the eternal soul

o ignorant devotee
know thy self
this blood and body
this physical edifice
will one day be laid on the burning pyre
will be fed to the flames of extinction

this life is short
this living is sterile

the Word of the Guru is the only solace
is the only grace

this world is a dream
an instant of sleep
the wretched being is caught by the snake of time
o devote, meditate on His eternity
on His absolute infinity

as water extinguishes fire
as milk brings peace to the weeping child
as the fish and the lotus are sustained by the lake
Nānak, so does a restless soul
acquires solace and serenity
in the discourse of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception, there is sublimity ! (15)

the high mountains of obstacles are dangerous
the refuge of the parents is of no avail
the impossibility of crossing the high mountains
hovers over the frightened mind
the Guru alters this perception
his love saturates the inner self
it measures the beats of the heart of the devotee
the discourse of the Guru leads her across the high mountains
across the most arduous obstacles

this world is ephemeral
every thing, every moment is in flux
between life and death
there is but an instant
only the Sovereign of the universe lives for ever
only the truth and love of the Lord
help the being cross the river of life

the diamonds, the pearls and the palatial mansions
the horses, the chariots and the troops

are all ephemeral
a matter of days

all this gold and silver
all wealth and women
are only delusions
bereft of His bliss
there is no peace
no prosperity

when the last hour strikes
when the last breath is taken
when life is no more
the body decays
nothing helps
none comes to the succour of the suffering being

in the lust of life
wealth and women
children and charities
the luxuries of body and mind
the fragrance of futility
lead to the demon of death

to the final disaster

the sardārs, the rājās, the khāns
all fall prey to the eternal pride
all are immersed in the illusion of māyā
the Lord is forgotten
His love and truth are not perceived
the foolhardy burn in eternal separation

those who live in pride and prejudice
those who live in the dark abyss of ignorance and superstition
those who follow the path of cruelty and corruption
are lost, are doomed for ever

the discourse of the Guru is the ultimate truth
the ultimate transcendence
that transports the being from darkness to light
from loneliness to love
Nānak, the ignorant, the fools
remain in eternal wilderness

the devotees, the beloveds of the Lord are saved
they are tuned to His truth, to His transcendence ! (16)

this earthly home is ephemeral
the home is where my Love resides
how can this be our home
where our stay is for a few days
live in His meditation
in His reflection
to be with your Love
to be with His grace and affection

the yogīs are involved in yogic exercises
the pundits, the mullahs, the siddhās
are all engrossed in their false discourses
none pays attention to the uncertainties of life
to the ephemeral nature of this universe

the sultāns, the sardārs, the princes
all have left this world

in an instant this spectacle is over
in an instant this life is no more

the discourse of the Guru enlightens the devotee
with sublime knowledge, with ultimate truth

the almighty Allah
the Creator of this universe is eternal
the world is transient, sustained by His will, by His order

the sky and the earth, the stars and the planets
are all in movement
only His abode is steady and stable
the sun and the moon
are bound by day and night
by the will of the Creator

Nānak, His transcendent truth
is beyond all conflicts and confusions
beyond all speculations and superstitions ! (17)

SIRĪ RĀG
MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ, GHAR TĪJĀ

Thou art the ultimate renunciation
Thou art the ultimate indulgence
Thou art beyond the limits
of heavens, hells and the underworld
Thou art the ultimate bliss

the Creator of the universe
the humanity follows Thy gestures, Thy commands
in every being
in every creation
Thy will operates
in every heart
Thy bliss vibrates

in Thy bliss
is every grace, every gravity
in Thy union
is every honour, every serenity
in the discourse of the Guru
is the reflection of the gods and the sages
in Thy abode
in Thy meditation
is all knowledge
all sublimation

the humanity is lost in wilderness
lost in conflict and confusion
abandoned by the Lord
the devotee knows no path
her days are deserted
her nights are tortured

the beloved of the Lord
is at peace with herself
she lives in love
in sublime harmony
her good deeds have borne fruit

her devotion is recognised
she is blessed by the Lord
the Word of the Guru
vibrates in her heart

those who live in Thy love
are the beloveds of the Lord
they live in Thy will
their ignorance has vanished
their thirst is quenched
Nānak, the discourse of the Guru
brings peace and prosperity
brings union and love

in Thy union is all bliss
ignorance and foolhardy acts
give way to wisdom and good deeds
the discourse of the Guru
brings sublimity and serenity
benevolence and charity
the devotee crosses the river of life
she lives in Thy will
in Thy love, in Thy sight

bereft of the discourse of the Guru
the fool is lost in wilderness
lost in empty ceremonies and superstitions
hail the Guru of all humanity
who brings wisdom and virtue
who brings the devotee on the righteous path
who brings union and love
truth and transcendence

in His immanence
the Lord is transcendent
the discourse of the Guru
lightens the lamp of knowledge
bestows grace and benevolence
peace and honour

my Lord is omniscient
He is the ultimate knowledge
the ultimate perception
the ultimate conception

in His union is all security, all serenity
in His union is all reflection, all meditation
in His union is all charity, all celebration
Nānak, He is the Lord of all humanity
of all worlds, of all projections
this world is His play
His manifestation, His perception
He prevails in His universe, in His creation

the discourse of the Guru brings union
brings peace and prosperity
all illusions are gone
all delusions are set aside
in His manifestation
there are celestial beauties
there are shepherds, gods, demons
in His will is construction
in His will is destruction
life and death, birth and decay
are all due to His will, His bliss

Nānak, those who live in His love
live in His bliss and benevolence

live in His light and purity
in His grace, in His sublimity !

SIRĪ RĀG
PAIHRĒ

in the first quarter of the night
the seed of life was planted in the womb of the mother
turned upside down
the child meditated and prayed
naked she came in this world
and naked she will leave it
as it is written
so it will transpire
Nānak, in the first quarter
the seed of life grows

in the second quarter of the night
the being is led astray
she is lost in wilderness
playing in the courtyard

as once played Krishna in the house of the Yādava

as the mother was proud of her son
oblivious of the dictate
that all creatures belong to the Master

when the last hour strikes
every thing vanishes
every being is lost
Nānak, in the second quarter
the being is ignorant
she loses all touch
with His knowledge
with His grace

in the third quarter of the night
the being is engrossed in luxuries and lust
bereft of meditation and reflection
the being is haunted in wilderness
wealth and luxuries turn her head
the good deeds are forgotten
Nānak, the truth of the Transcendent is pushed into oblivion

the being withers in the third quarter
she loses all support
all hope

in the fourth quarter of the night
the field of the deeds is harvested
when the demon of death arrives
there is no refuge
none to reveal the mystery of life

the mourners do not help the sinner
in an instant all life ceases to exist
the evil deeds bring evil fruits

Nānak, in the fourth quarter
the demon of death mows down
the crop of deception and decadence ! (1)

in the first quarter of life
the being plays and reflects like a child
in the indulgence of the milk of the mother
in the indulgence of the parents
the child is oblivious of the illusions
of the delusions of the world

the past deeds lead to the present
the present leads to the future
as you sow
so do you reap
Nānak, bereft of meditation and reflection
there is no right perception
no divine conception

in the second quarter of life
the youth is drunk with pride and prejudice
with lust and luxuries
wealth and women are the only preoccupations

oblivious of His presence, His perception
the being is lost in hallucinations

bereft of His knowledge, His grace
the being is led astray
led into the dark abyss of decadence and depression
bereft of spiritual life
of divine reflection
the being is doomed
stuck in the mire of dirt and seduction

in the third quarter of life
the soul is soiled
the body withers
ignorance and ignominy are the order of the day

all wealth is a wanton loss
all power is a matter of days
the evil spirits take over
the mind is emptied of His reflection
Nānak, all grace lies in His benediction, in His benevolence

in the fourth quarter of life

the youth withers, the age prevails
the being is deaf and dumb to the right advice
blind to the righteous path
the withering body loses all energies
all activities of body and spirit
the evil deeds hover over the horizon
the being is lost in the fleeting time
in the falling support
pride and prejudice lead nowhere

Nānak, in His meditation and reflection
there is peace, there is perception

when the last hour strikes
when the body and mind are too staid to engage in any activity
too passive to react to any sensitivity
the being withers, the heart sinks in the darkest abyss

the devotee of the Lord
who lives in His love, in His union
whose life is saturated with good deeds
with virtuous thoughts and intentions
is honoured in His audience

is respected in His hallowed presence ! (2)

SIRĪ RĀG KĪ WĀR MAHALĀ CHAUTHĀ
SLOK MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ

all blessings are due to His benevolence
there are the seekers
who fret and fail
and there are others
whom the Lord awakens to bestow love and grace ! (1)

those who persevere and perceive
those who live in faith and fortitude
are received in His audience
others are lost in wilderness
they never receive His magnificence ! (2)

pride and prejudice
class and creed
lead to futility
Nānak, all honour is due to Him
all selection is due to His generosity ! (3)

the Creator resides in His creation
the devotee lives in His projection
His nature is beyond all measure
His discourse is beyond all perception
rites and rituals lead to ignorance and superstition
with faith and reflection
the devote arrives at His perception
she is blessed with His benediction ! (4)

there are those who brag and bray
and others who live in good deeds and devotion
there are those who are fallen in the dark alleys
and others who are immersed in divine reflection
they are blessed, they live in His pristine presence
Nānak, their deeds are honoured

their reflections receive His benevolence! (5)

there are those who indulge
in evil designs, violence and deception
they are the lowest of the lowest classes
the butchers, the scavengers, the demons, the devils
and there are others who live in His will
in His truth and transcendence
Nānak, they are honoured
they live in His sublime presence ! (6)

the ultimate measure
of good and evil
of crow and swan
is His benevolence
Nānak, it is He who decides
in whom the divine resides ! (7)

RĀG MĀJH

RĀG MĀJH, AṢṬPADĪÃ
MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ, GHAR PAIHLĀ

those who are tuned to His discourse
are honoured in His audience
they enjoy the truth of the Transcendent
they bathe in the glory of His Word
the nectar of His discourse
purifies their heart and soul

He is the Sovereign of the three worlds
He is the truth incarnate
the being is lost in pride and prejudice
the devotee lives in His will
in His eternal command

the Guru's discourse is the ultimate verity
it leads to His serenity, to His sublimity

the fool, the sinner is lost in her sins
when the last hour strikes
when the angel of death signals the departure
the Guru's discourse is the ultimate support
the ultimate hope
the ignorant being is lost in conflict and confusion
His will cannot be altered
His benevolence depends
upon the discourse of the Guru
upon his perception
upon his reflection

the being is forlorn
she withers in ignorance
in separation
stuck in falsity and faction
the evil deeds lead to depression and deception

those who live in His love
in His union
in His meditation and reflection
they perceive His immanence, His manifestation

the devotee lives in truth and love
she is the beloved of the Lord
Nānak, truth and virtue
lead to His grace
to His benevolence ! (1)

WĀR MĀJH KĪ
SLOK MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ

the Guru is the benevolence incarnate
the Guru is the abode of peace
the Guru is the light of the three worlds
Nānak, the Guru is the eternal treasure
his grace and bliss are beyond all measure ! (1)

at the first stage
the being is attached to the mother's milk
at the second stage
she is conscious of her parents
at the third stage
she is surrounded by her brothers and sisters

at the fourth stage
her heart vibrates with love
at the fifth stage
there is indulgence, there is infatuation

at the sixth stage
passion takes over
at the seventh stage
there is wealth and state

at the eighth stage
anger burns the inner self
at the ninth stage
age has its dividend

at the tenth stage
there is mourning, there is crying
the soul sheds the body
the life is extinguished
the sādhus are fed
the crows eat the remains

Nānak, bereft of the discourse of the Guru
there is indulgence, there is ignorance
the being is doomed for ever ! (2)

a ten, the child is involved in games
at twenty, the youth has its revolution
at thirty, there is perception, there is projection
at forty, the being crosses the threshold of life
at fifty, the fruits of deeds are ripe
at sixty, age takes over
at seventy, reason loses its hold
at eighty, the mind withers
at ninety, the body decays
Nānak, all over, there is ignorance
there is the smoke of conflict and confusion ! (3)

Thy nature is beyond any reflection
Thy creation is beyond any perception
Thou art the mystery of Thy creation
Thou art the knowledge of Thy projection
construction and destruction are due to Thy will
life and death depend upon Thy bliss

the devotee lives in Thy will
in Thy love
she is at Thy service, at Thy devotion
she is endowed with Thy perception

those who meditate and reflect upon Thy nature
they perceive Thy culture
they are blessed by the divine treasure ! (4)

the Creator of the universe
created the body with the soul to keep it alive
the eyes to see, the tongue to talk
the ears to attend to the divine tune
the feet to walk the righteous path
the hands to receive, to dress, to pray

the being has forgotten her Creator
has lost touch with her benefactor
when the pot breaks
when life slips away
Nānak, bereft of the discourse of the Guru
the being is led astray ! (5)

Thou art the Creator
Thou art the initiator of all activity
the being is burnt within
her thirst tortures her self
bound in uncertainties
she is caught in the cycle of birth and death
bereft of the discourse of the Guru
indulgence and illusion consumes her poor self

in the discourse of the Guru
in His bliss
there is peace, there is prosperity
the devotee is saved
and so is her mother
who gave birth to her, to her siblings
in the discourse of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
there is sublime perception ! (6)

in Thy creation
there is unity
there is diversity
there is indulgence
there is infatuation
it is all Thy manifestation

in Thy will is salvation
in Thy discourse is the perception of the righteous path
in Thy bliss is all truth, all transcendence
in Thy benevolence
is all purity, all sublimation ! (7)

hiding in the caves of the highest mountains of gold
sheltered in the depths of the underworld
indulging in repeated ceremonial purities
following the codes of the four Vedas
stuck in the dirt of the dirtiest places
all these austerities, all these rituals are perversions
Nānak, bereft of the discourse of the Guru
these are nothing but revulsions ! (8)

all efforts at washing, cleaning the body are in vain
all outer manifestations lead to disdain
the ignorant, the blind see not the right path
lost in indulgence, in ignorance the being is lost

Nānak, blessed by the discourse of the Guru
the devotee sheds pride and prejudice
she is bestowed with His love, with His bliss ! (9)

the fool's indulgence in luxuries and lust
leads to misery and misfortune
bereft of His bliss
there is separation, there is seclusion
the fool is stuck in dualities and divisions
in the discourse of the Guru
there is right perception
the right path, the right projection ! (10)

engrossed in falsity and corruption
in ignorance and deception
Nānak, such a leader is drenched in dirt
he betrays his friends
he loses their trust ! (11)

the austerities, the abstentions
the garb of a yogī
the life of a sanyāsī
lead the being astray
the inner thirst is not quenched
the inner hunger is not fulfilled
human life is wasted in fruitless wanderings
the pall of death weighs heavy
the discourse of the Guru leads to eternal salvation
to right perception
to virtuous projection
the truth of the Transcendent enlightens the devotee

Nānak, in the service of the Guru
the devotee realises the divine state
beyond all depression and despair ! (12)

drenched in blood the clothes are replete
drunk in blood the mind is never in peace
Nānak, the discourse of the Guru
cleanses the impurities of the soul
bereft of his discourse
the evil deeds, the falsities lead to the dark hole ! (13)

with inflated ego and false pretensions
with ignorance and ignominy
the fool brags and brays
Nānak, the blind, the ignorant sees not the righteous path
he leads the humanity astray
his deeds are devilish
his words betray deception and decay ! (14)

in all seasons, at all hours
the being meditates on Thy nature
on Thy dimensions, on Thy extensions
there is no count of Thy projections
only the fool pretends to know the unknowable

in the discourse of the Guru
is all knowledge, all count
in the discourse of the Guru
is all treasure, all measure
in the discourse of the Guru
is all purity, all sublimity
the eternal light of the Guru
enlightens the devotee
of the truth of Thy transcendence
of the bliss of Thy omniscience ! (15)

faith and fortitude, truth and temperance
be your mosque, carpet and Qurān
grace and gravity, abstinence and austerity
be your circumcision and fasting
to be a Musalmān
good deeds and devotion, truth and reflection
be your Kaba, pīr and prayer
Nānak, meditation and reflection
lead to His grace, His benediction ! (16)

Nānak, all transgression of the rights of the others
is like eating pigs for some, and cows for others
the Guru comes to the succour of those
who devour not rotten corpses
who are not involved in devilish deeds

clever chat does not lead one to paradise
truth alone perceives His transcendence
Nānak, drenched in dirt and deception
the being is doomed to depression and dejection ! (17)

truth, temperance, devotion, meditation and reflection
are the veritable five prayers
at five hours with five designations
Nānak, only the good deeds and pure thoughts
make a righteous Musalmān
all else is deception and desolation ! (18)

some deal in the diamonds of truth
others hanker after worldly affairs
in the grace of the Guru
are all the diamonds of virtue
bereft of the discourse of the Guru
the blind is stuck in the darkness of ignorance
the fool has lost his bearings
in His will is all treasure, all measure
in His bliss is all reflection, all perception
Nānak, His order sways every projection ! (19)

to be a true Musalmān
is to be on the righteous path
to reflect and perceive the Truth of the True Lord
to transcend life and death
to live in His nature, in His culture

Nānak, a Musalmān is he
who submits to His will and order
to His refuge and shelter ! (20)

the kings, the kingdoms, the sardārs
are all ephemeral, a matter of days
the commerce, the bazaars, the business deals
are all subject to His will, His order

the ignorant believes in the permanence
of the most temporary abodes
the horses, the elephants, the chariots
the gardens, the palaces
will perish, will obey the law of nature
Nānak, only the truth of the Transcendent will survive
any other order, none can contrive ! (21)

the mountains of gold and diamonds
the rivers of milk and honey
the fields of prosperity and plenty
lead nowhere
all richness, all grace
is in Thy meditation, in Thy benevolence ! (22)

all delicacies, all luxuries
all abodes under the sun and the moon
lead nowhere
all richness, all grace
is in Thy meditation, in Thy benevolence ! (23)

if my body is tortured for days
if the kings demolish my home and hearth
if the tyrants drink my blood
I will stay steadfast
in Thy will, in Thy order
in Thy meditation, in Thy reflection ! (24)

if I enjoy the pleasant breeze
of all seasons, of all weathers
if I am served by the celestial damsels of heaven
I will stay steadfast
in Thy will, in Thy order
in Thy meditation, in Thy reflection ! (25)

evil deeds cannot be hidden
from His omniscience
the fool is drenched in his ignorance
conflict and confusion rule the roost
bereft of reflection
the being is lost in superstition
the path of righteousness is forgotten

the wall of falsehood gives no support
the universe is saturated
with the Truth of the Transcendent
the devotee is immersed
in His sublime meditation ! (26)

all life is due to His bliss
bereft of His bliss
there is death, there is denigration
bereft of His bliss
there is dishonesty, there is deception
bereft of His bliss
there is destruction, there is disintegration
Nānak, bereft of His bliss
there is dishonour, there is degeneration ! (27)

bereft of His truth and love
dining and dressing are in vain
bereft of His truth and love
luxuries and longings have no place
bereft of His truth and love
armies, generals, palaces are all wanton waste

Nānak, bereft of His truth and love
this world, this illusion are a matter of days !(28)

in His court the truth reigns
as poison leads to certain death
truth leads to eternal transcendence
in His court, there is no high, no low
it is He who makes His devotee, a chief, a sardār
in His will is peace and prosperity
in His will one attains serenity
there are those who submit to His will
they are honoured, they enjoy His bliss
and there are others
who are drenched in evil deeds and deceptions ! (29)

when the crop is ripe, it is harvested
the grains are separated from the chaff
leaving the stems behind
the two wheels are put together
for the final grind

Nānak, miracle of the miracles
the grains that stayed with the Lord
were not crushed in the bind ! (30)

the sugarcane for its sugar suffers all the cruelties
after cutting and binding it is pushed through iron wheels
its juice is boiled at the highest heat
its wailing and crying are ignored
even its chaff is burnt alive

Nānak, people flock to see
the suffering of the sugarcane
for its juice, for its cruel refrain ! (31)

there are those who are oblivious of death
they live on false hopes
they are smothered by death again and again
without any friend or foe
their egos are inflated
they are haunted by the angel of destiny
they are drenched in deceit, decadence, ignominy

and there are others
who live in His truth, in His will
they are honoured
they enjoy His eternal bliss ! (32)

in the deepest depths of water
the fish does not change its nature
in the vast expanses of air
the bird does not alter its attire
the coldest cold has no effect on the stone
an eunuch remains an eunuch
in every surrounding, in every norm

the deaf is not moved by the sacred recitation
the light of the lamp has no effect on the blind man's perception
the cattle are not attracted by gold
they look only for grass
thrashing and beating does not affect the iron
cotton's softness, it never acquires
Nānak, the fool is engrossed in his stupidity
nothing can alter his rigidity ! (33)

the blacksmith's fire repairs
the broken glass, iron or gold
as the children bring harmony
in the estranged parents' fold
the prince is united with his people in happy mood
as the hungry breathe life with food
the deserted land comes alive with rain
as soft speech brings back the broken refrain
the divine truth brings to light the knowledge of the Vedas
as the good deeds strengthen the earthly chain
this world is sustained with union and love
but the fool is made of another stuff
Nānak, in the discourse of the Guru, in its appreciation
is the eternal perception, the eternal projection ! (34)

He is the Creator of this universe
He is also its measure
He alone can discern
the right from the wrong
the true from the false

in the discourse of the Guru
is the ultimate refuge
in the discourse of the Guru
is the ultimate transformation
of the false and the impure

in His audience, in His love
there is eternal truth
there is eternal measure
of His bliss
of His treasure ! (35)

sheikhs, pīrs, kings, kingdoms
will all be buried one day
only Thy Being is eternal
not subject to any decay ! (36)

gods, demons, men
siddhās, sādhus, seers
will all be buried one day
only Thy Being is eternal
not subject to any decay ! (37)

the judges, the judged
the denizens of the underworld
will all be buried one day
only Thy Being is eternal
not subject to any decay ! (38)

the sun, the moon, the sky
the earth, the spheres, the oceans
are all a mater of days
only Thy Being is eternal
not subject to any decay ! (39)

all lives depend upon Thy benevolence
Thou art their sublime hope
all else is a matter of days
only Thy Being is eternal
not subject to any decay ! (40)

the birds, the denizens of trees and skies
depend upon Thy bounty, Thy benevolence
all else is a matter of days
only Thy Being is eternal
not subject to any decay ! (41)

Nānak, what is ordained
is in Thy will, in Thy order
all else is a matter of days
only Thy Being is eternal
not subject to any decay ! (42)

in the discourse of the Guru Thy truth is perceived
in the discourse of the Guru Thy transcendence is received
in the discourse of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
bereft of the discourse of the Guru
the ignorant is stuck in deception
drenched in dirt and squalor
the fool suffers in dejection
Nānak, Thou art the ultimate measure
of Thy spiritual treasure ! (43)

in His will is every order
as He wills, so it is done

the tigers, the hawks may eat grass
and the grass eaters may devour flesh
the rivers may acquire the state of the deserts
and the deserts may be in spate
the lowest of the lowest may be crowned
and the great kingdoms may be drowned

Nānak, all life depends upon His will
all truth is in His bliss ! (44)

there are those who eat flesh
and there are others who eat grass
there are those who have all the pleasures and prosperity
and there are others who stay in the earth's ignominy
there are those who survive on air
and there others who are sustained by His reflection

Nānak, all ignorance leads to deception
to depression and dejection ! (45)

in the discourse of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
in the discourse of the Guru
pride gives way to perception
bereft of his discourse
all life is a wanton waste
all luxuries and lust lead to a deserted state

the Guru's discourse is the Truth incarnate
bereft of his discourse
the ignorant is in a state of degeneration
drenched in falsities
the being is lost in deception

Nānak, in His perception, in His reflection
there is honour, there is salvation ! (46)

in Thy will
there is music, there is recitation
in Thy will
there are musicians, there are melodious tunes
in Thy will
there are learned discourses
there are priests, sheikhs, and sages
in Thy will
there are kings, there are kingdoms
in Thy will
there are brave warriors
the wielders of the sword
in Thy will
is all knowledge, all discourse
in Thy will
there is reflection, there is perception
Nānak, in Thy will
there is truth, there is verity
bereft of Thy will
there is falsity, there is futility ! (47)

Thou art the most exalted being
all grandeur is due to Thee
Thou art the truth incarnate
all verity is due to Thee
in Thy will, in Thy bliss
there is no division, no duplicity

to see, to perceive, to articulate
all actions are dissolved in the cycle of birth and death
Nānak, all creation, all sustenance
is in His truth, in His transcendence ! (48)

in the discourse of the Guru
in his faith and fortitude
all tribulations disappear
all deeds are honoured
in his benevolence
there is meditation
bereft of his discourse
the ignorant is lost in his illusion
the truth of the true Lord
transcends all thresholds
Nānak, the eternal truth of the Lord
saturates every heart
enriches every hearth ! (49)

with the daggers drawn
the beings have become butchers
the path of deeds and duties
is pushed into oblivion
the moon of truth is hidden
under the dark night of dishonesty and deception

my search for truth is in vain
pride and prejudice lead to sufferance and pain
Nānak, where should one look for truth and honesty
and a voice humane ! (50)

the devotees and the dissenters
are never in tune
the Creator knows His will, His boon
the devotees meditate and reflect
on His truth, on His order
the dissenters are engrossed in deception
in the poison of their fallacious actions
when the last hour strikes
pride and prejudice do not help the sinners

the devotees stay in His service
in His devotion
they are honoured in His audience
in His omniscience ! (51)

in the early hours
the devotees meditate and reflect
they enjoy His bliss, His will

in the second hour
the restless mind is disintegrated
the being is bewildered
the right path is forgotten

in the third hour
hunger and thirst take over
there is no reflection, no perception

in the fourth hour
the lazy being is overcome by sleep and slumber
by conflict and confusion

all hours are His hours
they all deserve His meditation, His reflection
Nānak, in His bliss, in His omniscience
the devotee enjoys His benediction, His benevolence ! (52)

in Thy refuge, in Thy benevolence
the devotee is serene
her devotion is sublime
bereft of Thy refuge
the devotee is lost in wilderness
she pays the price of her stubborn reflection

bereft of Thy truth and love
she loses the right direction
the right measure, the right perception

in Thy will, in Thy order
she sheds her pride and prejudice
she regains her composure
the discourse of the Guru
leads her to the ultimate goal
in the serenity and the sublimity of her soul ! (53)

the discourse of the Guru
leads to the ultimate reality
to the sublimity of His truth
to the heavenly abode
in His bliss, in His love
the devotee acquires the spiritual mode

dissention and deception lead the being astray
the discourse of falsity falls to the evil's prey
the discourse of the Guru is the ultimate verity
the devotee is surcharged with its sublimity ! (54)

if I reach the outer limits of the austerities of body and soul
if I wear fire, eat iron and hide under snow
if I drink all the sufferance of the world
and keep the populace in toe
if I balance earth and sky with the smallest stone
if my grandeur is acknowledged by all
Nānak, it is all in vain
it is all in His will, in His benevolence
it is He who bestows serenity and sublimity
temperance and tranquillity! (55)

bereft of His truth
there is dishonesty and deception
bereft of His truth
there is death and destruction
bereft of His truth
the heart aches, the body withers
bereft of His truth
there is hunger and thirst
bereft of His truth
there is no perception, no reception
bereft of His truth
there is degeneration and dejection
bereft of His truth
there is falsity and deception
only the discourse of the Guru
can quench the thirst and lead to eternal salvation! (56)

Nānak, the Guru is the sublime tree
with the flowers of righteousness
and the fruits of knowledge
green with the water of love
it grows in meditation and reflection
it is the greatest benevolence
its taste lies in bliss and benediction ! (57)

the Guru is the sublime tree
its flowers bear diamonds, pearls and gold
the discourse of the Guru
keeps all the diamonds in its hold
Nānak, those who are blessed by His benediction
they enjoy the purity of holy dips
they bathe in His bliss

this world is flooded with
the rivers of violence, anger, greed and deception
they consume their poor victims
only the discourse of the Guru
can save the devotees from defilement and destruction ! (58)

a life of truth and discipline
needs no lamentation
this world is an illusion
it is the devotee's perception
lost in the affairs of this world
the being loses touch with His truth
the angel of death hovers over the ignorant being
when His will commands
the last hour strikes
when His bliss is showered
there is peace, there is perception

when the cup is full
the end is announced
in the discourse of the Guru
there is benevolence
the devotee responds to His truth
to His transcendence ! (59)

bereft of His reflection, His meditation
body and mind are replete with poisonous projection
Nānak, cursed are the beings
who rot in depression and dejection ! (60)

all movements are in His will
in His order
there are the birds who fly in the air
and the others who crawl
there are those who enjoy love and the fragrance of sandal
and the others who feed on poisonous plants
Nānak, it is all ordained
in His perception
in His projection ! (61)

to perceive His nature and culture
there are learned discourses
the Vedas articulate their perceptions
the erudite engage in His projections
in different disguises, in different reflections

the discourse of the Guru leads to light and love
to faith and fortitude
to celestial music and rhythm
Nānak, the devotee is endowed with His serenity
with the perception of His benevolence and sublimity ! (62)

in His love men and women are adorned with devotion
day and night they are immersed in meditation
they enjoy the bliss of His benevolence
they live in truth, in reflection
they demure in His presence, in His will
they are the beloveds of the Lord

bereft of His bliss
the beings linger in dejection
the nectar of His discourse
leads to the right perception ! (63)

the devotees are never drenched in rain
the fires seek for more and more grain
the kings have never enough of their kingdoms
all the streams of the world are devoured by the oceans

Nānak, the devotee is ever thirsty
for the nectar of His meditation ! (64)

in His audience lives His devotee
tuned to the hymns of worship and devotion
in His truth
she vibrates with love and reflection
evil spirits are subdued
the devotee perceives the right projection

the Guru leads the devotee to the righteous path
to the perception of truth
to the annihilation of falsity and deception
the musician's hymns articulate
the unknown, the mysterious
Nānak, endowed with truth and temperance
the devotee lives in His union, in His presence ! (65)

the sinner born in sin continues to live in sin
bereft of faith and fortitude
sin and sufferance cannot be wished away
all efforts end in dismay
in His bliss, there is forgiveness, there is benevolence
bereft of His bliss, there is pain, there is sufferance ! (66)

Nānak, serenity and sufferance depend upon His will
upon His meditation and perception
the being lives both the states
in humility, in reflection
our words do not carry any weight
the devotee spends her life in silence and suspension ! (67)

in the four corners of the world
the devotee searched in vain
she never realised
His bliss was within her grain
the Creator saturates His creation
with His benevolence, with His benediction

the discourse of the Guru
leads the devotee to the righteous path
to the light of knowledge
to the pearls of wisdom
to the divine projection

the sinners lose their path, their serenity
their peace and prosperity
bereft of His perception
the ignorant are lost in wilderness
in depression and dejection ! (68)

in the benevolence of the Guru
there is peace, there is prosperity
in the benevolence of the Guru
there is no conflict, no confusion
in the benevolence of the Guru
there is no pain, no sufferance

in the benevolence of the Guru
there is joy, there is celebration
in the benevolence of the Guru
there is no fear of death or destruction
in the benevolence of the Guru
there is eternal serenity
in the benevolence of the Guru
there are all the treasures
in the benevolence of the Guru
there is truth and tranquillity beyond all measures ! (69)

drenched in dirt and squalor
the fools beg for rotten bread
they smell excrement, they fear water
like sheep they get their hair plucked
and smear their faces with ashes

their parents cry for their wild acts
their death is not mourned
no lamp is lit on their grave
there are no sacred baths, no ceremony
dirty, damned, they wear no sacred mark
depressed and dejected
always in mourning
avoiding all sane company
with begging bowls tied to their waste
they carry ceremonial fans
they are neither yogīs nor jangams
neither qāzīs nor mullahs
bewildered, they wander from place to place

oblivious of the dictates of the Almighty
they forget their charity, their parity
they know not what is pure, what is sublime
impure, dirty, they wait for the final grind

the gods churned the oceans for their diamonds and pearls
they proposed ceremonial baths in pure waters
the Muslims, the Hindus
all follow the purificatory rites

Nānak, all life depends upon water
the sinners do not realise its power
where there is rain, there is water
there is life, there is light
with rain there are crops
the sugarcane, the cotton, the grass
the cows, the cattle live on green plants
the ceremonies, the rituals
all are blessed by the purity of water
Nānak, the Guru is the ocean
where all rivers meet
where all devotees bathe in pure waters! (70)

O true Lord
the devotee is in tune with Thy sublime rhythm
Thou art the eternal truth
all else is ephemeral and transitory
Thy benevolence endows the devotee
with Thy divinity, with Thy spirituality
Thy discourse is the sublime verity
the ultimate knowledge, the ultimate serenity
Thy benediction leads to divine eternity
Thy truth transcends all thresholds, all diversity
Nānak, in Thy grace is all charity, all purity ! (71)

He is the source of all knowledge, all perception
in His bliss, there is reflection, there is projection
bereft of His bliss, the being is lost in delusion

in His will are all forms
in His will are all norms
Nānak, His order is eternal
His benevolence crystallises all conflicts and confusions ! (72)

ordained by my Lord I compose the hymns of my Love
day and night I follow His command
the Lord called me to His audience
and bestowed on me
the ceremonial robe, the heavenly muse
the nectar of truth

with the grace of the Guru
there is peace and serenity
there is music and sublimity
Nānak, the devotee vibrates with
the rhythms of His affection
with the hymns of His devotion ! (73)

RĀG GAUṚĪ

RĀG GAUṚĪ GUĀRĒRĪ
CHAUPADĒ, DUPADĒ

heavily weighs the scale of fear
clever chat is light, devoid of truth and temperance
the devotee lives in His will, in His fear
in His fear, she steers clear
in His fear, there is reflection
in His fear, there is perception
fear ignites the fire of love, of union
in the discourse of the Guru, there is communion

bereft of His fear, there is no light
in her ignorance, there is no sight
the fool is duped in illusion
she spends her life in delusion
Nānak, her words are hollow
there is no solace, no peace
she lives in her terrible seclusion ! (1)

in His fear, there is no fear of the unknown
in His fear, the seeds of love and affection are sown

in His will is every one
beyond His will, there is none
in His will is all reflection
in His will is all devotion
the worldly fear has no state
no form, no substance, no divine dictate
the Creator transcends His creation
in His will is every manifestation
in His will is every move
in His will is every truth

bereft of His bliss, there are thirst and hunger
bereft of His bliss, there are pride, lust and anger
in His fear, there are peace and prosperity
in His fear, there is divine serenity

Nānak, His wondrous nature is beyond all description
His noble creation is beyond all perception ! (2)

let perception and patience
be your mother and father
let truth be your brother

His wondrous nature none can describe
our words and thoughts do not coincide

let meditation and reflection be the two in-laws
let there be the wedding
of the righteous deeds and devotion

Nānak, union and separation are in His will
truth and temperance are in His bliss ! (3)

air, water, fire constitute our body
with a sharp intellect to activate our spirit
there are nine openings
but the truth of my Lord leads to the true perception
to listen, to articulate, to compose
the sage stays in meditation, in reflection
in this body of clay the air resounds
the sage knows the verity of the sound

pride and pretensions have no base
death equalises every race
wandering from place to place
the being is lost in confusion
His truth resides within our soul
in our inner depths, there is union, there is fusion

the learned discourses
the diamonds of knowledge are within our mind
death takes its toll and ignorance recedes
the devotee acquires the truth sublime
Nānak, the discourse of the Guru
leads to the ultimate verity
where death loses its eternity ! (4)

the devotee who listens
who comprehends, who believes
is worthy of honour, of salutation
the ignorant is lost in wilderness
the believer is immersed in reflection
in meditation, in perception
bereft of His meditation
there is distress, there is desolation in the crop of life
meditation is the seed of salvation
sin and sufferance cannot be wished away
passion and anger lead to utter devastation

in the discourse of the Guru is the truth incarnate
there is temperance and tranquillity
there is peace and prosperity
in the discourse of the Guru is the juice of life
in the discourse of the Guru the truth is ripe
in the discourse of the Guru
there is union, there is perception
in the discourse of the Guru
there is light, there is reflection
Nānak, He is the ultimate measure of His divine treasure
He is the ultimate verity of His divine sublimity ! (5)

where the being comes from ?
where does she go ?
how can she attain salvation ?
how can she be immersed in His eternal projection ?

her meditation is the nectar of reflection
her renunciation leads to divine perception
concepts and conventions saturate her mind
the discourse of the Guru saves her from all demise

as the birds rest on the trees
so the beings stuck in lust and luxuries look for His support
as the birds search the skies for food and air
so the devotees follow their deeds and devotions

in the discourse of the Guru
is the perception of transition
in the discourse of the Guru
the devotee is not led by passion and perversion

bereft of the discourse of the Guru
the being suffers pain and dejection
bereft of his discourse
there is no knowledge, no reflection

in the grace of the Guru
all perceptions are pure and sublime
in the grace of the Guru
the devotee has the peace of mind
Nānak bows to her faith and fortitude
to her meditation and reflection in solitude ! (6)

the being is stuck in the mire of passion and perversion
she is lost in lust and luxuries
in the depths of greed, sin and slumber
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no boat to cross the river of sufferance

in His will, in His bliss
there is support, there is hope
the being is drenched in dirt
she longs for His love and abode
the body boils with the heat of fire and water
the being is consumed by derision and deception
without surrender, without devotion
there is no reflection, no projection

in the discourse of the Guru
pride and prejudice recede
bereft of his discourse
there is death and destruction
bereft of his discourse
there is illusion and deception

in His will, in His bliss
there is reflection, there is perception

the being waits for her turn
to ride the boat of salvation
to cross the river of sufferance
to be immersed in His devotion

in the temple of His meditation
at the threshold of His reflection
Nānak, there is the perception of His sublime verity
there is the nectar of His love and affection ! (7)

in His meditation the lotus of my heart is in full bloom
the stream of nectar has awakened all the senses
the Lord surveys the three worlds
the devotee follows His truth and transcendence

in His faith there is serenity
in His nectar there is sublimity
in His faith there is perception
in His faith there is sublime reflection

in His meditation there are sacred baths
in His meditation there is no lust, no hunger
in His meditation there is bliss, there is benevolence

Nānak, in the discourse of the Guru is all support
in its reflection is all perception
in its faith is all hope ! (8)

in the bliss of the Guru
the devotee transcends death and deception
in the bliss of the Guru
the devotee transcends passion and perversion
in the bliss of the Guru
the devotee acquires His pristine perception

this life is short
and death takes its toll
in His meditation, in His reflection
there is union, there is sublimity
the lotus of my heart is opened to love
there is peace, there is serenity

in His union, there is truth, there is tranquillity
there is no fear of death, no doubt, no delusion
in His union, there is communion
there is perception, there is reflection
Nānak, in His union
pride gives way to divine projection ! (9)

as we sow
so do we reap
our deeds decide
what will coincide

in His will is every deed
there is none other to decide and treat
Thy benevolence is beyond all perception
deeds and duties follow Thy reflection
infinite is Thy benediction
and infinite is Thy benevolence
pride hath no place in Thy presence
all life depends upon Thy omniscience

in Thy discourse are faith and fortitude
in Thy discourse are life and death
in Thy discourse are meditation and reflection
in Thy will there is no dirt, no deception
in Thy bliss the devotee acquires the right perception
Nānak, in Thy will, in Thy refuge
there is devotion, there is truth ! (10)

in the bliss of the Guru is his discourse
the devotee perceives the unperceivable
knows the unknowable
in his bliss there is no fear of the unknown
no fear of death and destruction

in the discourse of the Guru
there is grace, there is honour
bereft of his discourse
there is sleep, there is slumber
there is death, there is destruction

Nānak, those who live in His meditation
in His reflection
their ignorance is removed
they live in truth ! (11)

in lust and longings
there is the eternal cycle of death and destruction
the devotee finds in the four Vedas His outer manifestation
the three states of His physical realisation
the discourse of the Guru realises the state of meditation
the state of divine perception

in the refuge of the Guru there is light
the eternal cycle is left behind
engrossed in the four temptations
the being is lost in wilderness
the smritīs, the Shāstrasarticulate these forms and functions
the discourse of the Guru dispels all doubts
all conflicts, all confusions
the sublime Lord dwells in the heart of the devotee
there is peace, there is serenity
there is reflection, there is verity
there is union, there is purity

in His benevolence there is peace, there is prosperity
in His benevolence, there is love, there is sincerity
Nānak, in His bounty and benediction
there is generosity, there is eternal sublimity ! (12)

GAUṚĪ CHĒTĪ

the devotee reflects upon her withered state
upon her human condition
engrossed in greed, passion and lust
her being is smothered
the physical urges lead to a deserted state
dear friend, follow the divine dictate
the good deeds will take you to the spiritual state

listen in to comprehend His will
to shed greed and lust
and the deals of falsity and jealousy
of thefts and deception
when the last hour strikes
the being is left forlorn and sterile

listen in to comprehend His will
you have wasted your life in evil designs
in fraud and frivolity, in hatred and violence
Nānak, you have not listened to the right advice
to the path of the sublime
silver and gold, horses and chariots will all be left behind
Nānak, there will be none to mourn their loss
none to console the withered mind

all your palaces and wealth
will come to dust
all the gold of the kingdom of Rāwan
was reduced to ashes, to a deserted state

listen, o foolish mind
follow His will
our Lord is majestic
we live in His bliss
we follow His dictate
in life, in death ! (13)

passion, anger, greed, lust and pride
are my five enemies
my being is smothered by their whip, by their whim
only meditation can save me
only His reflection can help me face the demon of death

my being is forlorn
in this body of flesh and bones
the five enemies are at their nefarious task
the being is tortured day and night

my body is broken
my soul is looted
the demon of death has struck a heavy blow
all gold, all silver
is doomed in delusion
Nānak, the evil deeds lead to absolute devastation
to absolute desolation ! (14)

wear the earrings of reflection
and the robe of perception
control the five senses to meditate and perceive His verity
this is the true yoga
follow the Word of the Guru
avoid all frivolous acts
and lead the life of a pilgrim of the Lord
to vibrate with truth and sublimity

the Guru is the Ganges
the Guru is the threshold of all worship
o yogī, forget these austerities and abstentions
shaven heads and false pretensions
live in His will, in His bliss
to stay in His meditation, in His reflection

this short life is lost in pride and prejudice
Nānak, there is none to lament
none to mourn
when the naked body burns on the funeral pyre ! (15)

meditation and reflection
are the only bases of His perception
with faith and fortitude
the devotee attracts His sublime attention
He is the supreme Lord
He transcends all senses
all human projections

the being is stuck in the mire of delusions
the night is dark
there is no perception of the Lord
her life is slowly eaten by the mouse of time
the evil deeds lead to ignominy and suffering
the righteous acts are crowned by glory

as the devotee acted
so did she receive
none could alter His order
Nānak, in His benediction
there is prosperity, there is plenty
in His bliss
there is devotion, there is verity ! (16)

who is our father ?
who is our mother ?
where do we come from ?
created by the heat of fire and water
we are leading a restless life
O Lord, none can transcend Thy nature
none can escape sin and sufferance

there is no count of the trees and the plants
of cattle, of snakes, of birds
there is no count of earlier births
thieves and bandits commit theft and plunder
nothing can be hidden from His omniscience
nothing can escape His vision

the lust of wandering and visiting the holy places
for ceremonial dips and devotion
lead the being astray
the measure of all spiritual treasure
is within your heart, within your sway

our sins are deeper than the deepest oceans
only Thy benediction and benevolence
can hold the stones from drowning
can save the sinner, the ignorant

the being is burnt with the fire of temper and tribulations
Nānak, day and night, in His will
there is bliss, there is benevolence ! (17)

GAUṚĪ BAIRĀGAN

the night is lost in slumber
the day is gone in indulgence
this beautiful life like a diamond
is bartered for a farthing
there is no reflection, no perception
it is too late even for repentance
all this wealth and lust
all this greed and indulgence
is a matter of days
in the end, it amounts to nothing
it leads the being astray

whatever is destined by the Lord
is the lot of the being
only the deeds decide
what should coincide
Nānak, the Creator transcends His creation
in His will is every action, every dispensation ! (18)

like a deer I wander in the jungles
I am sustained by flowers and plants
with the grace of the Guru
I meet my Love in this wilderness
I deal in the reflections of love
I trade in His meditation

like a cuckoo I rest on the mango tree
and reflect on His benevolence
in the serenity of His nature
I meet my Love

like a fish I live in the depths of the rivers
I stretch my arms to reach Him
across the currents of the fast moving waters

like a serpent I live in the depths of the earth
without the fear of the unknown
I meet my Love in darkness

Nānak, the devotee lives for ever with her Lord
who is lit with His love
who is immersed in His light ! (19)

GAUṚĪ PŪRBĪ DĪPKĪ

the home that vibrates with the celestial rhythms
resounds with the hymns of His love, His devotion

I yearn for my Love
who is beyond all fear or ferment
I meditate, I reflect
for His perception, for His projection

the whole humanity lives in His benevolence
in His vision, in His benediction
His treasure is beyond all measure

the auspicious day of the union has arrived
the ceremonial oil is poured
with the blessings of the friends
I meet my Love, my Lord
in every home, there is joy and grace
Nānak, when the hours of the meeting approach
there is eternal bliss, there is sublimation ! (20)

GAUṚĪ GUĀRĒRĪ
AṢṬPADĪÃ

in the discourse of the Guru
are all the miracles
in the discourse of the Guru
there is sublime perception
in the discourse of the Guru
all illusions are gone
in the discourse of the Guru
there is reflection, there is meditation

this mind is disciplined in His reflection
the discourse of the Guru removes all delusions
in His bliss there is peace
in His will the hymns of devotion vibrate
the threshold of doubts is crossed
in His will the devotee is endowed
with the red hue of love
with His blessing the devotee enjoys
His benediction, His benevolence

in His bliss there is right perception
instead of death and depression
there is life, there is reflection

in His bliss there is no temptation
the demon of death does not hover
over the bewildered mind
greed and lust take leave
meditation and reflection replace the evil thoughts
the devotee lives in His will
all deeds are directed towards His projection
towards His serenity and reception

there is none other than Thy will
there is none other than Thy bliss
Thou art my sole support
Thou art my sole devotion
Thou art my sole protection

in the service of the Guru
there is meditation and reflection
in the service of the Guru
there is faith, there is fortitude
there is union, there is communion

there is no pride, no prejudice
there is light within
there is reflection of the divine
what had to happen has happened
the devotee has perceived His universe sublime

in His will all doubts are removed
in His will there is no pretension of false predictions
in His will is every act, every discourse
Nānak, in His will the Word of the Guru
enlightens the devotee to sublime reflections !(1)

the devotee is restless
her mind is wandering
like an unbridled elephant in the jungle
the discourse of the Guru controls the wild elephant
and the mind is devoted to His divine reflection

clever chat leads nowhere
His bliss lies in His will, in His discipline
the sublime nectar is within the mind
within His will, within His benevolence
the fire of lust and longings
is subdued by the water of His Word
is controlled by His bliss

the being lives in His omniscience
austerities in the caves do not lead to divinity
His will prevails over oceans and mountains
death does not haunt the devotee
fear does not subdue her meditation
the devotee perceives His truth in divine reflection

in His discourse is all truth
in His perception is all projection
in His reflection is all reception

in His will is all salvation
in His will is purity and sublimation
the Creator transcends His creation

in His praise vibrates the mind
in His music resounds the heart
Nānak, in His sublimity
there is eternal serenity ! (2)

the unbridled mind leads the being astray
the wandering mind is drenched in ambiguities
in conflicts and confusions, in uncertainties
only the discourse of the Guru
can bring harmony in heart and hearth
only the discourse of the Guru
can set the devotee to the right projection
can lead the being to reflection and perception

the estranged being is involved in evil deeds
in doubts and divisions, in false treats
the devotee reflects on the Word of the Guru
she is led to the righteous path, to the sublime peace

the estranged being indulges in illusions
in the mire of passions and perversions
the devotee meditates on His nature
she acquires His culture

the estranged being is engrossed
in the luxuries of elephants, horses and chariots
in the attachment of family and friends
she loses in this game of dice
in the hazardous world of trials and tribulations

the estranged being is drenched in dirt and destruction
peace and serenity always elude her
only His meditation and reflection
can lead her to sincerity and sublimation

in His bliss the devotee is saved
there is union, there is love
the Guru's Word burns all evil thoughts
the Guru's Word leads to reflection and perception

bereft of his Word
there are sins and sufferance
bereft of his Word
there are ignorance and ignominy
in the Word of the Guru
all doubts are dissipated
all ambiguities are removed

the clever mind is caught in falsities and frivolities
truth and untruth never coincide
the dirt of the mind is stuck in pride
Nānak, the Word of the Guru cleanses the inner self
there is love and union, there is sublime communion ! (3)

pride hath its fall
there is no peace for the ungrateful
falsehood cannot lead to truth
cannot lead to His bliss
our deeds control our destiny
the fool plays the game of dice
there is no devotion, no respite

the mystery of the mysterious
is beyond our perception
beyond our reflection and articulation
the devotee is bestowed with His perception
in her reflection, she perceives His projection

bereft of His reflection, there is no peace
bereft of His reflection, there is no solace
bereft of His reflection, there is no salvation
in His will is all reflection, all perception

the Word of the Guru
subdues the fire of passion
the Word of the Guru
removes all doubts and uncertainties
the Word of the Guru
leads to meditation and reflection
the Word of the Guru
leads to truth, to perception

in truth resides His transcendence
bereft of His truth, there is no refuge
in His love, in His bliss
there is devotion, there is reflection

the being is caught in illusions
in greed and lust and delusions
drenched in evil deeds
the being has followed the path of desolation
only the Word of the Guru can save the devotee
who lives in His reflection
who is sustained by the nectar of His perception

the devotee is received
in meditation, in reflection
she enjoys the bliss of His truth
she transcends all death and destruction
she follows the Word of the Guru in deed, in devotion

the Creator transcends His creation
the Word of the Guru has revealed the truth
of His faith, of His fortitude
in His will is all serenity, all sufferance
Nānak, the devotee vibrates with His perception
with His meditation, with His reflection ! (4)

the being is stuck in illusion, in duality
in pride, in passion, in vanity
there is but one universal Sovereign
who dwells in every heart, in every charity

this duality is the ultimate illusion
it obliterates all meditation, all reflection
it leads to the eternal cycle

there is but one Lord
one light in all life
the sun, the moon are lit with His light
in all creatures, there is the same sight
with His grace the mind is steadied
on His perception, on His reflection

with the Word of the Guru
there is the perception of the true Lord
all duality is removed
there is reception, there is truth
in His will are all deeds
in His will are all devotions

ignorance leads to the blind alley
of duality and delusions
with the Word of the Guru
all knowledge is crystallised
all perceptions are purified

Nānak, He dwells in all forms, in all substance
the devotee lives in His will
she vibrates with His eternal hymn ! (5)

a yogī is he who subdues his fire
who controls his evil thoughts
who dwells in truth and temperance
who suffers heat and cold of the sun and the moon
who endures all hardships
who leads a virtuous life
a life of meditation and reflection
such a yogī is the light of the world
he is saturated with His truth, with His transcendence

the yogī lives in His fear, in His ferment
he follows His dictates, His vision
in the service of the Guru, in His Word
the yogī receives all wisdom, all virtue
his faith replaces his austerities
his fortitude replaces all doubts and dualities ! (6)

a yogī is he who lives in His will
who follows truth and temperance
who is not stuck in pride and prejudice
who is not afraid of the unknown

such a yogī is not caught in the snares of illusions
he meditates and reflects on the Transcendent
he is accepted in His audience

he subdues the fires of passion
he overcomes the fear of age and death
he is saved and helps others to achieve eternal salvation

he is always in the service of the Guru
he is beyond all fear or ferment
he follows his Guru in deed, in devotion
he acquires the purity of reflection

hail the yogī who is the support of all
who is beyond the cycle of birth and death
who reflects on the Word of the Guru
who acquires divine perception
who is endowed with truth and transcendence
who is not stung by hunger and thirst
who enjoys His bliss, His love

all appearances are illusory
all are subject to the whims
of greed, passion and perversion
Nānak, only the blessed ones
receive His benediction, His benevolence ! (7)

in the presence of the devotee of the Lord
there is peace and serenity
there is reflection, there is perception
there is the sacred bath of all the pilgrimages

the devotee is saturated with patience and reflection
her tongue vibrates with the hymns of the Lord
she is devoted to truth and transcendence
she is beyond all doubts and dualities

the truth of the Transcendent surveys the universe
in ignorance, there is no perception, no reflection
the Word of the Guru leads to the knowledge of the unknown
only the devotee of the Lord arrives at such a perception

in His grace is all protection, all refuge
in ignorance the beings are like the dumb cattle
estranged and bewildered

the Word of the Guru enlightens the devotee
on the unity and the sublimity of the Almighty

the Creator has created the universe
for reflection, for devotion
those who live in His will, in His bliss
follow His truth, His transcendence

Nānak is beholden to the devotee
for her meditation, for her reflection
for her innocence, for her perception ! (8)

pride hath a fall
even Brahma did not realise his folly
when his Vedas were stolen
it was too late
there was no time for reflection, for repentance
pride is the greatest scourge of life
only the Word of the Guru can save the erring humanity
from its shackles, from its suffering

Ball Raja fell into the same trap
his pride and haughty demeanour
landed him in trouble all over
he found himself thrown in the underworld
Hari Chand was proud of his charities
of his wealth and estates
bereft of the Word of the Guru
he lost all grace

the mighty Rāwan lost his Lanka and his head
his pride let him down
bereft of the grace of the Guru
Sahasbah was killed by Kanas
Madh and Kitab were annihilated

Mehkhāsar was subdued by Durga
and the body of Harnākhash was torn apart
bereft of His grace, these demons were decimated

the old Duryodhan lost his honour
he forgot his Creator
he suffered for his pride
Janmeja did not follow the Word of his Guru
He lingered in doubts and dualities
ignorance led him to sin and sufferance
Kans, Kasu and Chandur were great warriors
bereft of His grace
they lost all honour, all glory
bereft of His benevolence, there was no protection

bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no grace
pride hath its inevitable fall
Nānak, in His reflection, in His perception
there is peace and serenity
there is temperance and sublimity ! (9)

drenched in luxuries, fragrance and dresses
the ignorant being is led astray
bereft of His reflection, it is all a matter of days

all this show and pride, all this decoration
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, it is all a matter of days

these shining earrings, these necklaces of pearls
these beds of roses
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, it is all a matter of days

all this wealth and women
all this lust and luxury
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, it is all a matter of days

these palaces and paraphernalia
these garlands of flowers
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, it is all a matter of days

all these horses, elephants and spears
these servants, soldiers and followers
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, it is all a matter of days

all these austerities and abstentions
these miracles and mysteries
these crowns and the umbrellas of royalty
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, it is all a matter of days

all these kings, rājās and princes
these subjects, orders and estates
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, it is all a matter of days
all pride and pretensions are dissolved in the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception
Nānak prays for His truth, for His divine refuge ! (10)

the devotee meditates on one unique Lord
she bothers not about other distractions
she lives in serenity, avoids all perversions
she enjoys His bliss, His truth
such is the true devotee of the Lord
she bathes in the sacred waters of His reflection

the world has lost the blossom of its lotus
its heart is polluted
it is burnt with the fire of passion
only the Word of the Guru
can save the suffering humanity
from its ignominy, from its frivolity

as the insects, moths, fish, deer and elephants
are smothered by their own passion
the greed and lust delude the ignorant and the indulgent
passion leads to perversion
anger burns all peace and serenity

bereft of the Word of the Guru
the indulgent loses all honour and grace

infatuation leads to frivolity
it enslaves the thirsty senses
only the Word of the Guru
can save the trapped humanity

in greed and lust
in passion and perversion
the widow loses her body, her mind
bereft of His love
there is no solace, no resting place

Vedas and Purāṇas
their readings and recitations
do not imbibe the hymns of His love
bereft of His bliss
the mind is restless, the heart is bewildered

as the cuckoo is thirsty for love
as the fish is thirsty for water
Nānak, the devotee is thirsty for the nectar of His bliss ! (11)

austerities and abstentions are of no avail
disguises and smearing the body with ashes
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, there is only repentance
meditation leads to peace and serenity
bereft of His reflection, there is only sufferance and vanity

all luxuries and lust
all indulgence in wealth and women
lead the being astray
bereft of His reflection, there are only falsities and frivolities

the spears, the drums, the thunder of canons
lead to passion and perversion
bereft of His reflection, there is no peace, no perception

pride and prejudice lead to wilderness
in His meditation, there is sincerity, there is serenity
bereft of His reflection, there is ignorance, there is ignominy

there is no bargain without due credit
there is no crossing without the oars and the boat of reflection

bereft of the service of the Guru
there is degeneration, there is dejection
hail the Guru who shows the righteous path
hail the Guru who articulates the divine discourse
hail the Guru whose perception leads to perfect communion

hail the Guru who bestows life and light
whose Word is the sublime nectar
in whose reflection, the devotee lives in His will, in His bliss

bereft of His reflection, there is no life, no light
in His reflection, there is truth, there is perception
Nānak, in His meditation
there is benevolence, there is benediction ! (12)

pride and prejudice have no support
only a chosen few arrive at the right perception
pride is the greatest obstacle to truth and transcendence
pride hath an eternal fall
the kings, the princes, all follow the same path
in the Word of the Guru, the pride of the devotee is dissolved
and the five demons are subdued

with truth there is transcendence
there is knowledge, there is projection
with truth all conflicts and confusions are removed
with truth there is no fear, no ferment

pride leads to death and delusion
the Word of the Guru saves the devotee
from all dualities and divisions

the manifest word has no immanent truth
in the Word of the Guru, the truth is crystallised
in the discourse of the Guru
word and thought do coincide
Nānak, in His meditation
there is sublimation, there is the nectar divine ! (13)

first of all it was Brahma himself
who fell to the stroke of death
he tried to hide in the underworld
but could not evade his destiny
bereft of the refuge of the Guru, he lost peace and serenity
whosoever is born is subject to the agony of death
only the Word of the Guru brings steady sustenance
gods and goddesses were all caught in the same trap
they were all smothered by the demon of death

bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is anxiety, there is anguish
the cycle of birth and death is infernal
only He who transcends His creation is eternal

the sultāns, the khāns, the kings
all fall in the dungeon of death
bereft of His reflection
there is agony, there is ignominy
in the Word of the Guru
there is perception, there is divine reception

the chieftains, the overlords, the kings
all lead a transitory life
the wealthy traders sink in their wealth
only in the Word of the Guru
there is eternity, there is sublimity

the populace, the chiefs, the sardārs
are all a matter of days
all fall prey to the demon of death

there is but one Truth and Transcendence
who is the creator, who is the sustainer
in His grace, there is peace, there is honour
the qāzīs, the sheikhs, the faqīrs
are all caught in the net of pride
oblivious of the eternal hold of destiny
in the agony of death, there are no tongues, no eyes, no ears
bereft of His reflection
the ignorant are the victims of their own deeds
the devotee who reflects, who meditates
whose heart vibrates with the hymns of His love
lives in His will, in His bliss
she is saved from the demon of death and destruction ! (14)

the devotee lives in His truth
she is not trapped in frivolous issues
she lives in His will
in His purity, in His benediction
she is beyond the snares of death

in the nectar of the Guru
there is sincerity and serenity
there is the steady state of sublimity
the one who perceives this state
articulates its benediction and beatitude

in the discourse of the Guru
the devotee follows the righteous path
she enjoys His bliss, she reflects upon His will
she drinks the sublime nectar
she stays steady and sincere

in the discourse of the Guru
there is knowledge, there is perception
in the service of the Guru, there is surrender, there is projection
in the service of the Guru
there is the realisation of His omniscience
the devotee lives in His reflection, in His transcendence
in His eternal light, she vibrates with His unique projection
she is not afflicted with the illusion of māyā
her salvation is in His righteous path
beyond pride and prejudice
her bewildered mind is steadied in reflection
with the discourse of the Guru
she crosses the river of sin and sufferance

in the discourse of the Guru
there is the perception of His eternal truth
beyond all doubts and dualities
there is temperance and transcendence
those who vibrate with His truth
their company is blessed
Nānak, in His truth
all falsities are sublimated ! (15)

the devotee who reflects, who meditates
is blessed with His grace
with His presence

cursed are those who are oblivious of His will
who know not the nature of His universe
the sublime Lord blesses those who live in His will
in His universal order
the devotee who follows the Word of the Guru
vibrates with His hymns, lives in His bliss
the devotee who lives in His meditation, in His love
follows His truth
lives in His refuge

the devotee whose heart vibrates with His reflection
lives in His divine presence
with her friends she enjoys His love and affection
she perceives Him in every creature
in all spheres of His nature and culture

the devotee who perceives His truth receives His blessings
her pride giveth way to meditation and reflection

how can one acquire His truth, His union
the devotee's devotion leads to His love, to His communion

the sinner suffers for her tribulations
the devotee is blessed by the divine discourse
she resonates with His love and affection ! (16)

like a shepherd the Lord sustains His flock
with care and love He bestows grace

in His care the devotee prays
in His benevolence, in His refuge
she spends her worldly days

in His protection is all creation
in His support is all life
in His meditation is all light
bereft of His bliss
there is darkness, there is ignorance
greed and pride lead to death and destruction
in the service of the Guru
there is truth, there is transcendence

in His eternity, in His sublimity
there is peace, there is serenity
bereft of His bliss
it is all transitory, it is all frivolity

one is bon with nothing
one dies with nothing
all follow the same destiny

like the bucket of a well
the being hangs at the threshold of heaven and hell
in meditation, in reflection
the being acquires the perception of this and the other universe

in the music of the divine Word
the self dissolves to meet her Love
Nānak, in His bliss
the devotee is tuned to the eternal rhythm
she vibrates with His truth, with His transcendence ! (17)

with the grace of the Guru
the devotee acquires divine perception
she follows the Sovereign of the universe
the Lord of every heart and hearth

bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is ignorance and ignominy
there is deception, there is desolation
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is darkness in every projection

the ignorant and the blind follow not the right path
bereft of the Word of the Guru
they are lost for ever
they do not differentiate between the asleep and the awakened
they do not distinguish between the dead and the living
they do not discern birth and death
they do not realise the desolate states of the being and the other

they confuse the sweet and the savour
they decry every event
they degenerate in every moment of this dark age

they do not differentiate between the sovereign and the servant
they do not separate the paucity of the buttermilk
from the richness of the butter

Nānak, the discourse of the Guru
crystallises all events, all reflections
all perceptions, all projections
the discourse of the Guru enlightens the devotee
to the ultimate knowledge, to the ultimate verity ! (18)

RĀG GAUṚĪ
CHHANT

bereft of His love, the nights are restless
the heart aches, the body is bewildered
all luxuries, all decorations are of no avail
bereft of His love
it is all false, all illusions
Nānak, bereft of His love
there is darkness, there is delusion

bereft of His love, the being is wretched
there is no peace, no tranquillity
bereft of His love, there is no truth, no transcendence
bereft of His meditation
there is no reflection, no perception

in the Word of the Guru
there is truth, there is temperance
Nānak, the devotee lives in His bliss
in His love, in His grace

friends, let us all live in His truth
in His Word and Thought
in the discourse of the Guru is the righteous path
in its ignorance, it is all false
in the discourse of the Guru
there is truth, there is transcendence
Nānak, in His benevolence
there is love, there is temperance

dear fiends, I am blessed with His presence
in His love my heart vibrates with the hymns of communion
my mind follows the divine contours
the evil spirits strike no more
day and night there is celebration
Nānak, the universe resonates with the joy of love and union ! (1)

bereft of His love, the devotee suffers in loneliness
bereft of His love, there is anxiety, there is anguish
the nights are dark and the winds are frightening
Nānak, these are the pangs of separation
these are the moments of desolation

the Word of the Guru brings union and love
peace and prosperity, honour and grace
with her fiends the devotee sings the hymns of the Lord
she drinks His sublime nectar
Nānak, the devotee is steady and serene
she vibrates with joy and peace

caught in the snares of māyā
the being lives in falsities
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is anguish, there is separation

in the discourse of the Guru
love and truth are saturated
charity and benevolence are in abundance
bereft of His meditation
there is no grace, no honour
Nānak, in the Word of the Guru are dissolved all ambiguities
His Name is the Truth incarnate
His perception is the greatest blessing
His reflection leads to divine projection

the one who negotiates His reflection
gets all the credit, all the credence
bereft of His will
there is no trade, no transaction

He is the ultimate measure of His divine treasure
Nānak, in the grace of the Guru
the devotee enjoys His benediction, His benevolence ! (2)

RĀG ĀSĀ

RĀG ĀSĀ
MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ, GHAR PAIHLĀ
SODAR

imagine the wondrous abode
where the protector of all resides
where the musicians sing
where the hymns vibrate
where different tunes adore His state

all sing Thy praise
the air, the water, the fire
Dharamāj in his palace
with Chitra and Gupta
the keepers of deeds and duties

there are, Ishar, Brahma, Devī
all sing in unison
Indra on his throne
gods in His attendance
the siddhās in meditation
the sages in deep thought
the disciples, the ascetics
the seekers of truth
and the brave warriors
all are tuned to the same hymn
the brahmans, the rishīs
throughout the ages sing along
the maidens fair
and the creatures of the underworld
join the chorus

the most precious
the sixty-eight pilgrimages
the valiant soldiers
in the four corners of the universe
in all spheres and centres
sing Thy praise

they alone can sing
who follow Thy will
Thy devotees are ever in tune
thee are so many others
one can count not
Nānak, they all enjoy the same boon

He is the everlasting Truth
the Tue Lord
Truth is His designation

He is
He will ever be
the Creator of the universe
as He wills
so it is done
none dare oppose Him
the King of kings
Nānak, in His will are all things ! (1)

RĀG ĀSĀ
CHAUPADĒ

the eminence of Thy being
is beyond all discourses
beyond all discerning
Thy exalted self is beyond all count
beyond all measure
to articulate Thy extensions
is to merge in Thy infinite

my Lord
the highest, the most sublime Sovereign
whose depths cannot be fathomed
whose cosmic horizons cannot be attained

all reflections lead to the ultimate
to the most precious
the wise, the sage attempt to comprehend the incomprehensible
with truth, meditation and reflection
the siddhās seek Thy grace
without Thy benevolence
none can reach the ultimate
the sublime
words and thoughts do not correspond
to constitute the divine discourse
to conceptualise the eternal spirit
Nānak, with the Truth of the True Lord
the devotees aspire for the divine mode ! (1)

in Thy longing is life
in Thy absence is death
Thy truth is beyond all measure
beyond all forms and concepts
the being is thirsty for Thy grace
for Thy love
o mother, I must never forget my Lord

the true Lord is merged in His truth
His truth is beyond all descriptions
beyond all perceptions
the devotees' reflections, meditations
do not alter His projections

His being is beyond death or depression
His benevolence is beyond all conventions

none can attain His measure
His supreme grace and pleasure
His sublimity and service
His eminence and grace
His meditation and reflection
surcharge the spirit with divine perception

when the Lord is forgotten
when the evil spirits control the mind
Nānak, the being is forlorn
her mind is stuck in the eternal grind ! (2)

the devotee stands at the door of the Lord
with a begging bowl and a heart of devotion
the Lord is gracious
His benediction is for all, high or low

in His will is every order
perceptions and projections are in His grace
with His benevolence and benediction
there is no paucity, no prevention

it is all His creation, His dispensation
with the Word of the Guru
the darkness recedes
and the true Lord manifests His transcendence
there is reflection
there is divine perception
Nānak, in His grace and benediction
there is union, there is salvation ! (3)

the restless mind is bewildered with conflicts and confusions
the world resounds with the lore of greed and infatuation
the demons dance, the dark age is frightening
the ascetics, the sages have no place in this mad world

Nānak hails those who reflect and meditate
who follow His order and dictate

the world is blind to His nature, to His benevolence
the disciples cheat the gurus for a few loaves of bead
there is treachery, there is deception
even if one indulges in luxuries for hundreds of years
one can never achieve serenity
bereft of His reflection, bereft of His perception
there is no love, no affection

there is nothing but bargain and bate
all justice is mockery
nothing but cheating and deceiving
none bothers about honour and honesty

Nānak, it is all a house of deception
with human face and evil deeds
with the actions of a greedy dog
there is no peace, no serenity

with the grace of the Guru
there is perception, there is prevention
there is honour, there is reflection ! (4)

in Thy discourse is all reflection
all forms and all perceptions
in Thy rhythm, there is music, there is balance
Thou art the one unique Sovereign
one sublime Lord

in Thy will is all life, all light
in Thy bliss is all benediction, all benevolence
in Thy creations are all actions
all deeds, all descriptions
in Thy will is all spectacle

in this dark age Thy will is forgotten
drunk with the wine of pride and delusion
the being is lost for ever

Nānak, all forms, all ferments
are due to Thy will, Thy bliss ! (5)

the devotee's mind vibrates with the hymns of His love
and the heart resounds with the beats of His drum
there is bliss, there is serenity
there is reflection, there is perception
there is cosmic dance of His projection
there is harmony of love, there is affection
all else is discordant and deception

with the musical beats of truth and temperance
with the bells of His will and bliss
the devotee dances to the tunes of her Lord
to the eternal rhythms of her Love

with the ferment of fear
with the reflection of His being
with the renunciation of all lust and longings
the devotee dances to the tunes of her Lord
to the eternal rhythms of her Love
with the love of the Word of the Guru
with the truth of his discourse
with reflection and meditation
the devotee dances to the tunes of her Lord
to the eternal rhythms of her Love ! (6)

in His will were created air, water, fire, earth
in His will the stupid Rāwan was killed by Rām
His will surveys all
He is the Sovereign of the universe

in His will was created life
and the Kali cobra was subdued
in His will is every strength, every power
in His will were created gods
in His will Brahma searched the underworld
and Kans was thrashed by Krishn

in His will the gods churned the ocean for peals
in His will all the treasures were divided
in His will were all the conflicts and confusions
in His will were all the deeds and devotions ! (7)

in His will are all deeds and devotions
beyond all forms and hues
the heavenly music vibrates in the purity of the minds
he who knows His Word, articulates
he discerns the mystery of the sublime

in the bliss of His nectar
all illusions are removed
the devotee is enlightened by the sublime light
the net of māyā is broken

the Creator transcends His creation
the true yogī vibrates with His music
he is awakened by His omniscience
Nānak, tuned to the hymns of the Lord
the devotee enjoys His bliss, His transcendence ! (8)

in the discourse of the Guru is His truth
in His bliss is our refuge
in His meditation is His perception
in His meditation is His projection
all else is frivolous, dejection

the restless mind is stuck in ignorance and perversions
in empty words and deceptions
in sin and sufferance
there is no prayer, no reflection

all life follows Thy will
none can alter Thy order
in Thy discourse is all truth
in Thy will is our refuge

in the hymns of gods and goddesses
is the sublime nectar, the divine perception
Nānak, He alone is the measure of His treasure
the ultimate truth lies
in His meditation, in His reflection ! (9)

in His benevolence
my Love came to my abode
the bridegroom came to the dwelling of the bride
in His love, in His perception
there was music, there was celebration

the Lord of all life
came to my hut
in the refuge of the Guru
there was the marriage of the minds
there was the sublimity of knowledge
the transcendence of perception
in the three worlds
resonated His Word, His reception

in His will
all deeds are endowed with devotion
there is truth and temperance
there is meditation and reflection
Nānak, with the grace of the Guru
there is love, there is union
there is sublime communion ! (10)

the serenity of the home and the wilderness of the jungle
follow the same state of mind
ignorance recedes and the music of His bliss vibrates
there is meditation and reflection
there is the righteous path and perception

in discipline and temperance is the truth of the six Shāstras
in His bliss there is the sublime light of His ultimate verity

the being is burnt with hunger and thirst
sin and sufferance lead to agony and anguish
passion and perversion lead to degeneration and dejection
in His benevolence
the devotee steers clear of all duality and deception

in His meditation the being vibrates with His hymns
there is music, there is love
in His benediction and benevolence
the body and the mind are in His transcendence
falsity and duplicity are of no avail
all disguises and deceptions lead the being astray
Nānak, birth and death are the worldly ways
He alone has the eternal sway ! (11)

in His lake there are sublime lotus
they blossom with beautiful colours and forms
the swan picks up the precious pearls
they all belong to the same unique Lord
the manifest and the immanent do coincide
without the lake the lotus has no life

His mysterious nature is rarely known
the Vedas come to the same refrain
in His reflection, in His perception
in the service of the Guru
is all knowledge, all projection

immersed in His meditation and reflection
the devotee enjoys the rhythms of His perception
in His will is the ultimate refuge
in His will the heavy stones cross the vast oceans
in the three worlds is His light, His spectacle
evading delusions the devotee lives in His meditation
day and night, there is love, there is union
Nānak hails those devotees
who are endowed with His benevolence
with His presence ! (12)

in the discourse of the Guru
there is truth, there is temperance
in the discourse of the Guru
there is the eradication of all sins and sufferance

in falsities and deceptions
in dualities and divisions
there is ignorance, there is ignominy
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no peace, no serenity
stuck in pride and prejudice, in luxuries and lust
there is no faith, no trust

the discourse of the Guru
saves the devotee from all temptations
from all delusions and distractions
in discipline and dedication
there is serenity, there is sublimity
in the service of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception

Nānak, in the meditation of truth
the devotee finds the ultimate refuge ! (13)

in His meditation and reflection
the devotee drinks the sublime nectar of His perceotion
she never deviates from the righteous path
she vibrates with His love, with His communion

in meditation the devotee enjoys His refuge
in the Word of the Guru
there is transcendence, there is truth

those who live in His meditation
they are accepted in His audience
they are immersed in His transcendence

in His bliss, the devotee reaches her Love
she discerns His Word, she vibrates with His perception
she is saved and she helps others to cross the river of life
in the service of the Guru, she attains the eternal light

in His truth is every truth
in His truth, there is no conflict, no confusion
Nānak, in His benevolence, there is serenity, there is salvation ! (14)

there are those whose life is a wanton waste
and there are others who are immersed in meditation and reflection
there are those who find no support
they are wretched, lost in wilderness
in the world of evil and ignominy
the Word of the Guru is the only solace, only serenity
in His bliss, there is reflection, there is communion
there is no fear of death and destruction
in the discourse of the Guru
the devotee enjoys divine purity
as the lotus floats on water for eternity

in the Word of the Guru is the eternal truth
there is reflection, there is divine refuge
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee crosses the fierce ocean of conflicts and confusions

the Shāstrasand the Vedas are replete
with worships, with ceremonies, with mysteries

in the Word of the Guru, there is sublime purity
Nānak, in His bliss and benevolence
there is tranquillity, there is sublimity ! (15)

in His bliss the devotee is at the feet of the Guru
who has endowed her with knowledge and perception
who has enlightened her
to the truth of the Lord, to His transcendence

pride and prejudice lead the being astray
clever chat has no sway
in the bliss of the Guru
pride recedes and the devotee follows the divine way

in His meditation and reflection
there is peace and serenity
in the Word of the Guru
there is purity, there is sublimity

in His bliss
the inner struggle gives way to serenity
Nānak, in His bliss
there is truth and temperance
there is the resolution of all ambiguity ! (16)

in His meditation, in His reflection
there is sublime perception
with the grace of the Guru
the devotee discerns His truth and transcendence

in His reflection, the mind is purified
the body enjoys His blessing
the devotee vibrates with His music
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is conflict, there is confusion

in the music of His divine hymns
there is truth, there is tranquillity
the pure diamond of devotion
bestows purity and piety

beyond all deeds and discourses
beyond all illusions and delusions
in the company of the seers and the sages
Nānak, with the grace of the Guru
the devotee is blessed with reflection, with divine perception ! (17)

in His will are paupers and princes
in His will there are some who are graced
and others who suffer for ever
in His will is all construction and destruction
in His sway is all universe
the devotee lives in His benediction
in His eternal creation

bereft of His discourse, the being is led astray
the blind and the ignorant are lost in the net of illusions
in the Word of the Guru
there are no dualities, no delusions
no conflicts, no confusions
Nānak prays for all humanity
for His benediction and benevolence

in His bliss, there is meditation, there is reflection
in His will, the being follows the right perception
she is endowed with divine light
Nānak, in His benediction, in His truth
the devotee swims across the river of life ! (18)

without milk a cow is sterile
without feathers a bird cannot fly
without water the plants have no life
bereft of honour, a sultān has no domain
bereft of His meditation
the devotee's heart is a wasteland
bereft of His grace
there is sufferance, there is pain

when the eyes have no sight
when eating and dinking have no taste
when the ears are not tuned to the divine Word
bereft of His grace
there is misery, there is misfortune
with His bliss, the Word of the Guru
brings the shade of the heavenly trees
with His bliss, there are fruits of knowledge
there is purity, there is beatitude

in His will is all creation, all life
in His service is all grace, all light
in His will is all serenity, all sight
Nānak, in His will is all truth, all refuge ! (19)

in His bliss the body reflects the universe
the mind wears the clothes of meditation
with the sacred thread of knowledge and reflection
with the grace of the Guru
the being is immersed in His creation

o pundit, meditate on such a Lord
all purities, all ceremonies are meant only for His truth
for His transcendence
all the ceremonial symbols
the loin cloth, the mark on the forehead are of no avail
bereft of His benediction, there is no truth, no refuge
abandon all these false ceremonies, all these pretensions
meditate upon the one unique Lord
in His reflection are all perceptions
in His bliss are all benedictions

in His reflection is truth and temperance
in His devotion is steady serenity
the Vedas, the Purāṇas could not reveal His mystery
Nānak, in the grace of the Guru is the divine light
the divine purity, the divine sight ! (20)

in His service is His reflection
the servant of the Lord lives in His perception
in His will is creation and destruction
in His will is every action

with the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives His truth and transcendence
she enjoys His bliss, His benevolence
she is received in His audience
she is called to His majesty
she vibrates with His divinity
the devotee lives in His will
she follows His dictates, His commands
she is sustained by His truth, by His refuge

the brahman is lost in his erudition of the Vedas
he knows not the sublime mystery
bereft of the Word of the Guru
he cannot follow the cosmic spirituality
beyond all discourses and descriptions
the Lord is immersed in His own creation
Nānak, the devotee lives in His devotion
in His perception, in His projection ! (21)

this body, this earthen pot
is subject to destruction and dissolution
only the Word of the Guru
can help the devotee cross
the fierce currents of the river of life
Thou art manifest in many forms
in Thy blessings are all norms

the māyā, the mother-in-law
is an obstacle in the union with my Love
with the help of my friends I beseech the Guru
for His blessing, for His indulgence

Thou art my only refuge
Thou art my only truth
beyond hope and despair I seek Thy support
in the company of the devoted I yearn for Thy beatitude
Nānak, in the vibrations of my heart
there is love and union, there is sublime communion ! (22)

indulgence is the cause of family and factions
indulgence leads to all actions and dejections
to all sins and sufferance

shed all lust and luxuries to reflect upon His nature
to comprehend His truth and transcendence

with the true Word, there is no pain, no anguish
no remorse, no repentance
the world is drowned in the currents of lust and longings

in indulgence, the cycle is eternal
in indulgence, there is death and destruction

in the Word of the Guru
there is no indulgence, no penance
there is reflection, there is transcendence
Nānak, in His will, in His bliss
there is divine serenity
there is divine sublimity ! (23)

in His will is every action, every projection
the being suffers in sin and prays for His benevolence

in His will is every deed, every devotion
in His will the being crosses the river of depression

in falsity and factions
the being is lost in delusions
bereft of His reflection
the being is drenched in dirt and dereliction

beyond all miseries and misfortunes
the devotee stays in His will, in His projections
with the grace of the Guru
there is meditation, there is divine perception

Nānak, all deceptions lead to utter disaster
only meditation and reflection lead to sublimation ! (24)

the divine discourses lead to charity and benevolence
a disciplined life leads to sublime light

if the mind is in tune with divine rhythms
there is music, there is vibration
there is no fear of death or destruction

a sanyāsī is he who is not ensnared by hope and despair
there is no indulgence for the one
who follows the yogī's discipline and prayer

a digambar is he who lives in piety and patience
who respects life in every creature

Thou art manifest in many reflections
Nānak, these are all Thy projections ! (25)

drenched in sin and sufferance there is no relief
how can I please my Lord, how can I beseech my Love

with awe and fear I dare not approach my Lord
I seek His love, I hesitate, I plead, I pray
I wait for His audience, for His sublime presence

I am thirsty, I am hungry, I am hollow inside
youth is gone, age is threatening
within hope and despair
my heart vibrates for His love, for His union

in His will, in His bliss
there is love, there is union
my heart aches for His presence
it vibrates with His divine music
with the hymns of love and longings
Nānak, in the sublime moments of serenity and surrender
in the noble thoughts of love and light
there is transcendence, there is benevolence ! (26)

the innocent girl at her parents' home
stands in awe of the approaching Love
of the majesty of His presence

her Love is the one unique Sovereign
in His benediction
is the union of hearts and hearths

at her in-laws the truth of the Transcendent is perceived
in the sublime state of serenity
her Love is received

in the Word of the Guru
the devotee follows the right perception
she is led to her Love with deeds and devotion

Nānak, in fear and ferment
in love and longings
the devotee is resplendent
to meet her Love
to receive His benevolence ! (27)

with family and friends
there is no stay
all indulgence and infatuations
are a matte of days

in His will is all life
in His will is all light

the sinner prays for His benevolence
in His bliss, there is benediction
there is forgiveness

with the Word of the Guru
the devotee is enlightened
she recognises her Lord
she follows the righteous path

Nānak, in the discourse of the Guru
there is perception
there is truth and transcendence ! (28)

the restless being is drowned in the vast ocean
the fire of separation can never be extinguished
with every step
the downhill descent cannot be stopped
the being is stuck in the mire of deception

the Lord is forgotten
the being is doomed
temperance, truth and tranquillity have taken leave
the ignorant mind is engrossed in division and duplicity
Nānak is beholden to those
who have not forgotten
His generosity, His sublimation ! (29)

of the six Shāstras
of the six discourses and disguises
there is but one perception

the discourse of the unity
is the discourse of the Guru

there are the days, the hours, the months
but there is one encompassing sun
Nānak, the Creator transcends His creation ! (30)

millions of soldiers
with millions of spears and salutations
serve no purpose
bereft of His grace
there is rejection, there is repugnance

millions are won and lost to wander in the wilderness
bereft of His grace
there is no serenity, no tranquillity

the learned discourses on the Shāstras and the Vedas
lead the being astray
bereft of His grace
it is all a matte of days

with truth there is honour and respect
with deeds and devotion there is faith and trust
Nānak, when the heart beats with His love and affection
there is smooth crossing of the river of sin and sufferance ! (31)

in the lamp of my reflection
there is the oil of sufferance
with its light and projection
there is no fear, no faction

the populace is stuck in ignorance
a wick of fire can burn a heap of wood
can destroy all temporary edifice

all worships and ceremonies
are tuned to His meditation
to the eternal truth of His perceptions
Ganga and Benares and all the holy places
the sacred baths and ceremonies
lead to deception and dejection
the truth of the Transcendent
is realised in His love and affection

the ancestor worship of the brahmans
the distribution of alms
are futile exercises, are futile pretensions
Nānak, there is no measure of the gift of the divine treasure
no end to the perceptions of divine projections ! (32)

the gods were engaged in austerities
the yogīs went though many disguises
they suffered heat and cold and wandered to the holy places
to please the Lord, to perceive His projections
His numerous forms and hues were beyond their perception

there were those who renounced horses and elephants
all luxuries and wealth
there were also pīrs and faqīrs whose search was endless
who suffered hardships and pain
who left their homes to the lure of wilderness
who were caught in all kinds of disguises and delusions

Nānak, their search was in vain
the true Lord is perceived in meditation and reflection
the devotee follows the divine refrain ! (33)

the five demons have smothered my being
restless, the five base instincts torture my soul
there is no concentration, no reflection
drenched in geed, lust and sin
my mind finds no peace, no projection

I dream of my Love
I search for flowers and fragrance
I seek the company of friends
I look for comfort and consolation

Nānak, in the will of the Lord
only good deeds and devotion
lead to any reflection, any perception ! (34)

the devotee wears the garland of pearls and diamonds
with the thread of her devotion
she adorns her body with the jewellery of humility
she is devoted to her Lord, to His eternal will

her necklace is woven with reflection
her teeth are brightened with the paste of perception
her bangles are made of meditation
her rings shine with her devotion
her clothes, her hair, her eyes
all her being vibrates with anticipation
with faith and fortitude
to receive her Lord
to meet her Love ! (35)

in His will is every action, every faction
in His will is His reflection
Nānak, the devotee is honoured
she lives in His truth, in His transcendence

in His will is every projection
bereft of His will, there is no bliss
as it is written, so it is done
none can alter His order

clever chat and learned discourses lead the being astray
ignorance bears no fruits, falsities have no sway
in His will are all discourses and discussions
in His will are all reflections and perceptions ! (36)

in the Word of the Guru
are all the Mundra and Khintha
all the insignia of the yogic order

Bāba, in His will, the yogī perceives His truth and transcendence
and enjoys the nectar of divine perception

in meditation and reflection
there is no duality, no faction
in the resonance of divine music
there are cosmic reverberations
with the cap of meditation
and the staff of reflection
with the ashes of His omniscience
the devotee lives in His presence
and perceives one unique light
of His sublime sight

Nānak invites yogī Bhartri
to concentrate all his energies
on meditation and reflection
on one unique sublime projection ! (37)

let reflection be your molasses
meditation, your flowers of Dhawa
and good deeds the bark of a Kikar tree
let discipline be the oven, and love, its cover
to distil the liquor of His perception

let the mind be drunk with the nectar of truth and temperance
let the Word of the Guru vibrate in the hymns of your meditation
drink the cup of truth and transcendence
be the trader of sublime nectar
let the world of conflicts and confusions
be replaced by divine reflection

the discourse of the Guru
is the discourse of truth and transcendence
it saturates the mind with His love, with His omniscience
Nānak calls upon yogī Bhartri
to reflect upon His sublime nature
to meditate upon His divine culture ! (38)

Khurāsān was saved but Hindostān was massacred
should the Creator be not blamed ?
the Mughal attacked as the demon of death
with such brutality and barbarism
with such veiling and crying
the Lord was not moved
the Creator was also the saviour …

if a brave fights a brave
it follows the age old tradition
but when the brutal armies
crush the meek and the humble
when the wild tiger kills the cows
the shepherd is responsible
these dogs murdered innocent people
the corpses were stinking all over

in Thy will is all construction and destruction
in Thy will is all generation and degeneration
in Thy will is all creation, all consumption
Nānak, in Thy will is all life, all resurrection ! (39)

RĀG ĀSĀ
AṢṬPADĪÃ

a yogī is he who leaves his high abode
and partakes in the assembly of populace
he abandons his clever discourse
and reflects on the nature of His universe

in the oceans, in the skies
in the universe of the Lord
he meditates, he perceives
his knowledge is supreme
his demeanour is serene
the Word of the Guru burns his base senses
he enjoys the purity of perception
he acquires the precious gold of divine reflection

with His truth and transcendence
he bathes in the sublime waters of His meditation
he vibrates with His love, with His devotion
he lives in His will, in His projection
the Word of the Guru subdues his passion
he smears his body with the ashes of His reflection
he wears the robes of truth and transcendence
he sings the hymns of His Lord
he drinks the nectar of His perception
the Word of the Guru is his pilgrimage
his inner being resounds with His hymns
he vibrates with love, with serenity
he subdues his five demons
he is submerged in His unity, in His infinity

as the reflection of the moon in the lake is near and far
so is the reflection of the Creator in our inner selves
only He who has created this universe knows His distance
the devotee prays for His benediction, for His benevolence
in His will is His doubt, His distance, His omniscience
Nānak calls upon yogī Bhartri to meditate and reflect
on the mysterious ways of the Lord of the universe
on the sublime rays of His eternal presence ! (1)

all the austerities and abstentions
all the clever discourses
lead the being to the wilderness of the mind
bereft of His perception, there is no salvation
bereft of His reflection, the being is doomed to dejection
He alone is the eternal spirit
all else is ephemeral, transitory
in the service of the Guru
there is solace, there is serenity

humanity is caught in the snares of māyā
there is hunger, there is thirst, there are pangs of sufferance
those who live in His reflection escape the net of māyā
their perception is right, they follow His dictates
they fear not death or destruction

this world is engrossed in passion and perversion
in the false attachment of family and friends
it has lost the battle of life
those who live by the Word of the Guru
their mind is serene, they perceive the divine light
those who subdue their five base senses
they live in His will, they vibrate with His bliss

with the Word of the Guru
the devotee reflects on His nature
bereft of the Word of the Guru
the being is caught in the confusions of culture
in His benediction and benevolence
the devotee is graced with His love and presence

His perception is beyond all discussions and debates
beyond all words and states
none has fathomed His extensions
none has reached His projections
serenity and sufferance are in His will
truth and transcendence are in His bliss

in His will is every spectacle, every miracle
in every rhythm, in every beat
there is celestial music, there is heavenly treat

in the Word of the Guru
there is divine music, there is supreme perception
the devotee lives in peace and projection
she vibrates with His sublime reflection

with the Word of the Guru
all pride and prejudice are subdued
there is cosmic vision, there is divine presence
with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is serenity, there is sublimation ! (2)

there are learned discourses
there are innumerable reflections
discussions and debates lead only to the wilderness of the mind
the eternal Lord is beyond all articulations

there is but one true Lord
all life and death are in His will
this world is drenched in the illusions of māyā
it is smitten by the demon of death
the Word of the Guru is the only truth
for the bewildered being it is the only refuge
with the Word of the Guru
all senses are sublimated
all ambiguities and anxieties are removed
with the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception
there is the realisation of His omniscience

the Creator of earths and heavens transcends His creation
He is the sublime Sovereign
all creation, all consumption is in His will, in His bliss
the Creator is the infinite ocean
full of the most precious pearls

the eternal spirit, the supreme will
bestows on His devotees, His benediction, His benevolence
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee discerns His truth, His transcendence
the Lord surveys His entire universe
He is His own minister, His own confidant
the world is rife with pride and prejudice
rare is the devotee who perceives His nature
rare is the devotee who reflects on His sublimation
bereft of the Word of the Guru
the world is drenched in dejection
humanity suffers for its conflicts and confusions
for its sins and misery
caught in the cycle of life and death
it has lost all peace, all serenity
only he who perceives the Word of the Guru
comprehends this mystery

with my Love there is light, there is life
with the Word of the Guru
there is benediction, there is benevolence
Nānak lives in His will, in His bliss
in His truth, in His transcendence ! (3)

when a being dies
family and friends mourn the deceased
when the being's pride meets the end
there is remorse, there is ignominy
all creation and consumption are in His will
who dies ? who lives ? is an eternal mystery

none mourns for the loss of life
the mourners weep for their own rights
none knows the mystery of death
the Creator alone holds the chords of life and death

when the inner base instincts die
there is light, there is life
in the Word of the Guru
there is no fear of death
no fear of the unknown

bereft of the Word of the Guru
there are superstitions, there are frivolities
there are taboos of purity and impurity
none need mourn the demise of the demon of temptations
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there are treacheries, there are tribulations
none perceives the Truth of the Transcendent
they are all stuck in the mire of sin and sufferance

there is but one light in all souls
the Shāstras delineate numerous goals
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no serenity, no solace
all sing in unison
it is He who creates, it is He who destroys
all creation, all consumption follow His dictates
the world is polluted in every act, in every coarse
purity lies in His Word, in His discourse

in the eternal cycle, there is life, there is death
in His meditation and reflection
there is truth, there is transcendence
there is benediction, there is benevolence ! (4)

in His reflection there is the measure of every treasure
in the grace of the Guru there is divine reflection
the devotee leads the life of love and devotion
in the grace of the Guru there is peace, there is perception
the devotee vibrates with His affection

in the trade of Truth, there is credit, there is meditation
there is love and union, there is divine communion
with the Word of the Guru, all base instincts are burnt
all ambiguities are removed
there is meditation and reflection
there is purity, there is perception
the devotee follows the righteous path
in the dungeon of ignorance
there is divine sanctity, there is sublimity
there is piety, there is purity

with the Word of the Guru
the bewildered mind is steadied with His perception
it reflects upon the nature of the divine universe
upon the three worlds and the nine regions
upon the four directions of earths and heavens

bereft of the Word of the Guru
the ignorant being is lost in his ignominy
he sees not the Truth of the Lord
the manifest and the immanent forms of His universe
he is led astray with false pretensions
drenched in the poison of māyā
he is at odd with His projections

with the Word of the Guru
there is serenity, there is sublimity
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is restlessness, there is anxiety

in His reflection there are diamonds and pearls
Nānak, in His reflection there is love and union
there is divine communion ! (5)

the devotee meditates and reflects
and perceives the abode of her Love
with the Word of the Guru
she acquires the knowledge of the unknown
her deeds and devotion lead her
to His truth and transcendence
day and night she reflects
her heart vibrates with His presence
she meditates on the order of the Lord of the three worlds
in His bliss she submits to His will
her base instincts are burnt
every breath of her life is surcharged with His omniscience

union and separation are in His will
every action, every projection follows His dictation
in His will is every creation, every consumption
every construction, every destruction
as He wills, so it is done
bereft of the Word of the Guru
none can perceive His projection

the being who was oblivious
in childhood, youth and age
will remain in wilderness
her life will be sterile
her reflection will lead her astray

the being who is oblivious of His nature and nurture
who is lost in ignorance, in ignominy
will suffer the agony of death, the anxiety and pain of the end

Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
with the grace of the Guru
the devotee enjoys peace and serenity
she vibrates with His rhythmic unity ! (6)

all pretensions, all perversions are doomed to dust
false divinity leads nowhere
bereft of His reflection, there is no solace, no peace

with the discourse of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception
the devotees are bestowed
with His benediction, with His benevolence
bereft of the discourse of the Guru
this body is stung with greed, lust and passion
bereft of His meditation
there is no peace, no reflection

the truth of the true Lord is transcendent
it dwells deep in the inner layers of the mind
bereft of the discourse of the Guru
there is no truth, no transcendence

the immanent form is immersed in the manifest curves
His truth is known only to the most blessed
to those who spend their time in divine reflection
to those who are transparent in deeds and devotion

the devotee aspires for His love, for His union
she vibrates with His hymns, with His communion
she drinks the sublime nectar of perception
day and night there is music, there is celebration
the Lord is gracious
there is love, there is reflection

with the Word of the Guru
there are no dualities, no divisions
there are no duplicities, no deceptions

the devotee prays for the grace of the Guru
for the company of sages and seers
for the light of love
for the life of peace and perception

with the Word of the Guru
there is recognition, there is benevolence
Nānak, in the unity of the cosmos
there is truth, there is transcendence ! (7)

this unbridled mind is like a wild elephant
wandering in the jungles of lust and passion
in the shackles of destiny, it is lost in the wilderness
with the Word of the Guru
it acquires peace, it acquires perception

bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no solace, no serenity
in the sublime reflection of the Lord
all base senses are purified
all false instincts are rectified

bereft of His reflection
the demon of death smothers the ignorant
in the bliss of the Guru
there is union, there is communion
there is life, there is resurrection

this mind is bound in dualities and divisions
it is stuck in māyā and delusions
with the Word of the Guru
there is divine support
there is sublime hope

in the bliss of the Guru
this mind is steady
it perceives the Lord of the three worlds
it is subdued by discipline, devotion and reflection
in introspection, it finds its being
it perceives the truth of the Transcendent
in reflection it acquires the state of a prince, of a soldier
without fear or ferment it meditates
it is bestowed with His peace, with His presence
it subdues the five base senses
it renounces all indulgence, all infatuation

with the Word of the Guru
it vibrates with the music of His hymns
it receives the boon of sublime reflection
in the bliss of the Guru
it is in tune with the divine verity
day and night it is immersed in His purity, in His piety
in the bliss of the Guru
this mind is saturated with His omniscience, with His perception
Nānak, in the bliss of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection ! (8)

death demolishes all treasure
bereft of the bliss of the Guru
there is no reflection, no measure
in the bliss of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception
day and night, there is meditation

bereft of His Word
there is no serenity, no support
in the bliss of the Guru
there is peace, there is hope
bereft of His Word
the being is bewildered in the illusions of māyā
in ambiguities and anxieties
in the bliss of the Guru
there is no fear of death or destruction
there is reflection, there is perception

in His benediction, in His benevolence
all illusions are removed, all miseries are eradicated
all sins and sufferance are annihilated

in the bliss of the Guru is the righteous path
in the bliss of the Guru there are no delusions
no dualities, no divisions

in the bliss of the Guru
there is eternal serenity, there is sublime presence
bereft of the Word of the Guru
the being is lost in the wilderness of the mind
she is stuck in the infernal bind

in His will are all gods, goddesses, men, women
in His will are all meditations and reflections
in His will is the divine support
in His will is the sublime hope
the sages, the seers, all follow His will
all enjoy His bliss
in His will, the devotee acquires the sublime perception
she is not devoured by the demons of destruction
she enjoys the company of the sages, of the seers
Nānak, in His bliss, the devotee vibrates
with divine music, with sublime rhythms ! (9)

in the service of the Guru
there is discipline, there is devotion
in the service of the Guru
there is meditation, there is divine projection

bereft of His meditation
the being is bound in family and friends
in the deeds of destruction, in nefarious factions
there are delusions all over

the farmer is engrossed in his fields
the prince in his taxes
the trader in his credits, the rich in his riches
they are all stuck in the mire of corruption
bereft of His reflection, there is no perception

the Vedas, the Shāstras, the learned discourses
are all stuck in their clever nets
greed and lust and delusions
are the marks of their illusions
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there are no conflicts, no confusions
there are no dualities, no divisions ! (10)

the beautiful brides with braids of shining hair
and red parting lines
have fallen to the dictates of destiny
their braids are mowed down with merciless scissors
their faces are smeared with dust
the brides who adorned the palaces
are rotting in the ruins
they have no place to go, no place to stay
hail the Sovereign of the universe
who alone knows the mystery of men and manners
of such deeds and devastations

when the brides came home
they were accompanied by their handsome princes
they rode in palanquins
they were bejewelled with the most precious stones
the ceremonial water was poured on their heads
there were sparkling fans in their hands
they were showered with innumerable gifts
they were offered sweets to taste
and the beautiful beds to rest

with the chains in their necks
they are now being dragged like bitches
by the soldiers of the brutal armies
they rue their beauty and charm, their jewels and pearls
they are dishonoured
they are raped by the demons of devastation
bereft of His reflection
bereft of His perception
humanity suffers unknown calamities
the rulers are subjected to the severest of the punishments
the armies of Babar have reduced the princes to paupers
the Muslim women can no more pray to Allah
the Hindu women can no more worship their gods
oblivious of His bounty in good old days
they are now miserable
they know not how to reflect, how to meditate

there are some who return home
and seek solace and serenity
there are others who have gone for ever
never to return to their loved ones
never to seek love and affection
it is all in His will, none can alter His order ! (11)

where are all the horses and chariots ?
where are all the drums and flutes ?
where are all the games and ceremonies ?
where are all the mirrors and beautiful faces ?
in His will is every action, every faction
in His will is every construction, every destruction

where are all the palaces ?
where are the magnificent mansions ?
where are those beautiful damsels ?
where are the beetle nuts ?

wealth and women have ruined many a home
none can accumulate such wealth
such heaps of treasures
without corruption, without sinful deeds
nothing accompanies the mortal in his final hour

in His will are all dispensations
all offerings, all reflections

the armies of Babar could not be stopped
by prayers, ceremonies, miracles
the palaces were reduced to rubble
and the royal princesses were molested
no Mughal went blind
none was subdued by false rituals
none bothered about the meek and the humble

the Mughals and the Pathans fought pitched battles
the Mughals attacked with their guns
the Pathans forced their way with their elephants
those who were destined to die
were snatched by the demon of death
the women of Hindus, Muslims and Thakurs
lost their veils, their honour and respect
in utter desperation, they followed their graves
some lost their princes and spent their lonely nights in wilderness
in His will are all destructions and decimations
in His will are all pains and sufferance
Nānak, who can be blamed
when His order surveys the whole universe ! (12)

like the passage of a shepherd
this life is ephemeral
with evil deeds and corruption
the being builds houses to last for ever
awake, my brethren awake
the being is on his way to oblivion
build houses if you are eternal
this body is transitory, these days are numbered

veiling and crying serve no purpose
who will mourn your death, your demise
all this veiling and crying is of no avail
the deceased do not listen to the mourners
live in His meditation and reflection
to avoid all misery and dejection
all your wealth, all your palaces will be left behind
none can escape the final grind

be a trader of truth
deal in good deeds and devotion
shed all miseries and misconceptions
in the soil of virtue
sow the seeds of truth
to live in His bliss, in His beatitude

in His benevolence, there is reflection
the devotee perceives His right projection
in His benediction, there is serenity
the devotee vibrates with His purity, with His sublimity ! (13)

I search Thee in the four corners of the world
I seek Thy blessing
I yearn to be Thy devotee
I reflect upon Thy truth
I stay in Thy refuge

the siddhās follow their pīrs for miracles
the yogīs, the seers, the sādhus wander in this vast world
bereft of Thy grace, bereft of Thy reflection
they stay in distress and dejection
the pundits, the astrologers
are engrossed in speculations
they are lost in ignorance
they know not the mystery of the universe

there are those who live in jungles
and others who reside in holy places
their minds are lost in wilderness
they know not Thy truth and transcendence

there are those who are proud of their physical discipline
they follow not the Word of the Guru
they are caught in the net of delusions, in ignorance

there are those who live in Thy will
who follow the Word of the Guru
Nānak, they are blessed
they are bestowed with Thy benevolence
they live in Thy sublime presence ! (14)

let your ambiguities and anxieties
be submerged in the inner layers of your self
cross this fierce ocean of life with the oars of truth
stay in His benevolent refuge

in His benediction and bliss
there is piety, there is presence
in the temple of the mind
there is meditation, there is reflection

shed all temptations of evil deeds and divisions
recognise His will, His benediction
meditate and reflect upon His universe
shed all greed and lust
purify your mind of all evil thought
to be with your Love
with the true companion of the innocent

plants do not grow in a dessert
in the divine universe
there is no place for falsities and treacheries
the truth of the true Lord transcends all boundaries
shed all temptations, all instincts of evil designs
all moves of pride and prejudice
all dualities and divisions
to acquire His benevolence
to arrive at His transcendence

bereft of His bliss
the heart of the being is a dead stone
it follows not His divine rhythms
it moves not with the vibrations of His love

the Word of the Guru is the sublime treasure
those who live in His will, in His order
live in His bliss, in His eternal measure ! (15)

the traveller was estranged
he was lost in the wilderness of the mind
engrossed in evil deeds
he forgot His master, he was stuck in the eternal grind

the Word of the Guru
showed the path of virtue and temperance
shedding all delusions of lust
the devotee was bestowed with His benevolence

in the Word of the Guru
the truth is transparent
all falsities are doomed for ever
in the Word of the Guru
all dualities are dissolved
all divisions are solved

all transactions are in His will
all credits follow His bliss
in His will is all honour, all benevolence
in His will is all misery, all sufferance

it is He who discerns the right from the wrong
it is He who subdues all pride and prejudice

bereft of the Word of the Guru
the being suffers all conflicts and confusions
all disputes and divisions

in the Word of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
the devotee is blessed by His benediction

Nānak, the Word of the Guru leads to the eternal truth
the devotee is blessed by His divine refuge ! (16)

all search in the jungles is futile
my heart is the green valley with the flowers of the divine
with the Word of the Guru
my heart vibrates with the truth of the true Lord
the devotee recognises His omniscience
in the service of the Guru
there is benediction, there is benevolence

in His bliss is reflection and perception
in His bliss is all honour, all celebration
bereft of the Word of the Guru
the being is estranged
in a boat laden with stones
there is no crossing, no salvation

in the Word of the Guru
the devotee worships with her head and heart
she reflects on His nature, she perceives His culture
she is saturated with His love and benevolence

in the Word of the Guru
there is no cycle of birth and death
in the Word of the Guru
the devotee loses her pride and prejudice
she vibrates with the hymns of His love

in the Word of the Guru
the devotee follows His order
she offers her heart and soul to her Love

Nānak, He alone knows His omniscience
He alone is the source of all benediction and benevolence ! (17)

bereft of the Word of the Guru
this mind is forlorn in wilderness
the base is rotten, the branches are caught in suspension
bereft of His meditation, there is no relief, no recompense

in the service of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception
in His refuge
there is purity, there is divine projection

there is but one unique Sovereign
in His truth, there is benediction, there is benevolence
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no truth, no transcendence

with the Word of the Guru
the devotee follows the righteous path
she lives in His truth, in His sublime refuge

the fool follows no advice
his mind is deserted
bereft of His reflection
there is deception, there is dejection

bereft of His reflection
there is wilderness
bereft of His reflection
there is no truth, no transcendence
as He wills, so it is done
in His will is all action, all dispensation

Nānak, in His will there is service, there is meditation
in His will there is honour, there is reflection ! (18)

in the discourse of the Guru
there is bliss, there is sublimation
in the discourse of the Guru
there is reflection, there is introspection

in the service of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
in the service of the Guru
there is truth, there is protection
the devotee prays for His audience, for His presence
she vibrates with His hymns
she is received with love and affection
the Lord resides in the inner depths of her heart
her meditation, her reflection
leads her to His treasure, to His measure

in His will is all creation, all consumption
all construction, all destruction
in His will is all growth, all decay
all preservation, all protection

in the service of the Guru
there is credit, there is credence
deeds and devotion lead to His projection

the fools wander in ambiguities
they are restless souls
they are blind to His bliss
they do not follow His will

in the Word of the Guru, there is right perception
in the Word of the Guru, there is light, there is reflection

Nānak, in the Word of the Guru
the devotee is endowed with truth and temperance
she is resplendent in His presence
she enjoys His eternal benevolence ! (19)

Thy extensions are beyond all discourses
Thy estimations are beyond all articulations
I beseech Thee, I lay at Thy feet
Thou art my only support
Nānak prays for the truth of the Transcendent
with the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception

pride is doomed for ever
it leads to the downfall of the ignorant
in the Word of the Guru
truth is the basis of all devotion

day and night the devotee spends her life in His service
she falters not, nor is she led astray
she lives in His truth, in His transcendence

in His will are all the divine treasures
all the virtues of the seers and the sages
bereft of His will the being is drenched in dirt and dejection

in the true Lord is His sublime truth
there is no false credit, no confusions
the fire of truth burns all doubts and divisions

those who live in His reflection
they follow the righteous path
they enjoy the fruits of the heavenly tree
they drink His sublime nectar

those who have tasted the heavenly fruit
they lead a sublime life
they escape all dualities and divisions
they bask in His eternal light

Nānak, in His bliss is sublime communion
the ignorant and the innocent are all blessed with His union ! (20)

my heart vibrates with the truth of the true Lord
as long as one lives
one meditates upon His eternal truth
one reflects upon His bliss, upon His divine refuge

in the Word of the Guru
is the music of His sublime hymns
in the Word of the Guru
the devotee discerns His truth, His transcendence
in the Word of the Guru
all miseries and sins are eradicated
all sufferance is subdued
in the Word of the Guru is the life well spent
in the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is divine perception

in His bliss, there is truth, there is temperance
in His bliss, the mind is purified of all base instincts
in His benediction and benevolence
the devotee enjoys His truth, His transcendence
she prays for His bliss, for His benediction
Nānak, in the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives the sublime truth, the sublime reflection ! (21)

how can one cut this eternal cycle ?
how can one meet one's Love ?
in the cycle of birth and death
there are dualities and divisions

bereft of His meditation
all discourses lead to desolation
beret of the service of the Guru
there is dejection, there is depression
in the service of the Guru
the devotee is freed of the eternal cycle
in His benevolence, there are no dualities, no divisions
in the Word of the Guru
there is the company of the seers and the sages
in the Word of the Guru
the devotee is immersed in His reflection

this world is a spectacle
it is ephemeral, a matter of days
in the dice of pride and prejudice
the being is led astray
in the Word of the Guru, the devotee wins the game of life
like the support of a stick for the blind
the devotee is firm in her faith and fortitude

in His will is every action, every dispensation
in His will is every reflection, every perception

Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
the devotee crosses the river of desolation ! (22)

RĀG ĀSĀ MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ, PAṬṬĪ

(following the alphabet of the Gurumukhi script)

there is but one unique Sovereign
the Creator of the universe
those who live in His will, in His reflection
they enjoy His bliss, they are bestowed with his benediction

this mind is stuck in dualities and divisions
in conflicts and confusions
in His divine projection
there are only good deeds and devotion
they lead the devotee to His sublime perception ! (1) SASSĀ

He is the eternal benevolence
He is the eternal truth and transcendence
those who perceive the truth of these letters
do not suffer from any delusion
do not remain in any illusion ! (2) ĪWṚĪ

He is beyond all discourses and descriptions
beyond all debates and discussions
those who live in His will
they live in His bliss
in His truth and transcendence ! (3) ŪṚĀ

those who perceive His nature
those who live in His culture
they are the sages and the seers
their pride has receded
their reflection is sublimated ! (4) ŊAŊĀ

when the last hour strikes
when age takes over
when the hair are white
the being is dragged by the demon of death
there is no respite before the last breath ! (5) KAKĀ

the Sovereign of the universe
sent the being in this world
with credit and credence
to see His benediction and benevolence
to seek His truth and transcendence ! (6) KHAKHĀ

His creation is beyond all descriptions
His universe is beyond all prescriptions
from His divine being emerge all sublime forms
in His creation there is no end to divine norms ! (7) GAGĀ

in the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives His truth
she stays steady and serene
in sins and sufferance
in deeds and devotion ! (8) GHAGĀ

He is the Creator of all knowledge, of all perception
He is the eternal Yogī with sublime reflection
He is the ultimate indulgence
the ultimate benevolence ! (9) CHACHĀ

the world is rife with dualities and divisions
with the Word of the Guru
there are no conflicts, no confusions
there is reflection, there is perception
there is divine dispensation ! (10) CHHACHHĀ

after eighty-four lakh births
the being is at His door
to seek His benediction and benevolence
to seek His truth and transcendence ! (11) JAJĀ

the supplicant seeks in vain
all dispensation is in His strain
in His will
is every benediction, every benevolence ! (12) JHAJĀ

there is but one Sovereign Lord
the unique Master of this universe
every place is surcharged with His benevolence
every heart vibrates with His presence ! (13) ÑAÑĀ

lost in false deals this life is a wanton waste
this game of dice is a certain loss
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee plays with the dice of truth
she enjoys His divine refuge ! (14) ṬAINKĀ

in His meditation
there is peace, there is patience
in the Word of the Guru
there is truth, there is transcendence ! (15) ṬHAṬHĀ

shed all learning and pretence
shed all conflicts and confusions
all that is constructed is doomed to destruction
peace and prosperity are in His service
in His eternal presence, in His omniscience ! (16) ḌAḌĀ

in His will is every creation, every consumption
in His will is every action, every dispensation
those who follow His will perceive His truth
they vibrate with His love
and enjoy His sublime refuge ! (17) ḌHAḌĀ

in every fibre of His creation is His presence
in every heart there are vibrations of His omniscience
beyond the tribulations of the eternal cycle
there is transcendence
there is correspondence ! (18) ṆĀṆĀ

the river is deep
the being knows not the other shore
there are no boats, no oars
how can one cross the fierce currents of the river of life ?
how can one perceive the divine light ? (19) TATĀ

the Creator transcends His creation
His projections are beyond all perceptions
all actions and dispensations are in His will
all creatures live in His bliss ! (20) THATHĀ

there is none to blame
none to share my sufferance
as I did
so did I receive
how can I blame the providence ? (21) DADĀ

in each creation is His creativity
in each form is His divinity
in each act is His benevolence
in each Word is His transcendence ! (22) DHADĀ

in each action there is divine indulgence
His manifestation is beyond all reflection
the devotee of the Lord seeks His love and affection
in every breath, in every perception ! (23) NANĀ

the Sovereign of the universe
has enacted this spectacle
to transcend His nature
to saturate His nurture
in His sublime perception
there is reflection
there is divine projection ! (24) PAPĀ

the whole world is in the grip of the demon of death
there is no respite until the last breath
with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
the devotee perceives His truth, His projection ! (25) PHAPHĀ

in His game of dice
all the four ages are at stake
all the creatures are His peons
His divine dice turns the moves of the game ! (26) BABĀ

in His truth, in His perception
there is no death, no destruction
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee reflects upon His divine discourse
upon the sublime unity of His universe ! (29)YAYĀ

the Creator lives in every creation
the world is engrossed in conflicts and confusions
those who live in His will, in His love and affection
they perceive His truth in His sublime projection ! (30) RĀRĀ

in this world there are dualities and divisions
there are conflicts and confusions
with the Word of the Guru
all doubts are resolved
all riddles are solved ! (31) LALĀ

in His will are all orders, all norms
in His will are all creations, all forms
in His will are all reflections, all perceptions
in His will are all meditations, all devotions ! (32) WAWĀ

the being is caught in transitory deals
in conflicts and confusions, in worldly affairs
with the grace of the Guru
there is peace and perception
there is devotion and reflection ! (33) ṚĀṚĀ

in His benediction and benevolence
is all creation
in His reflection is all credit
all credence ! (34) HĀHĀ

Nānak the poet reflects upon His actions
upon the affairs of this world, upon His projections
in His will
are all dispensations, all perceptions ! (35) AIṚĀ

RĀG ĀSĀ
CHHANT

o young beautiful girl
the divine love is an eternal bliss
in love and endearment
there is divine indulgence
there is sublime presence
with the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is benevolence
Nānak, there is bliss in His audience
there is sublimity in His presence

o young beautiful girl
let us talk about His love and union
about His sublime truth and transcendence
in His love the evil deeds are eradicated
in His union, there is benediction, there is benevolence
there is divine presence

the devotee knows no separation, no depression
Nānak, the heart vibrates with His hymns
the soul responds to His rhythms
my Lord trades in love
with the highest credit and credence
with the greatest treasure of virtue

I seek His presence at the threshold of love
I adore His creation, His sublime universe
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is peace and serenity
there is eternal purity

in His love
there is music, there is celebration
there is prayer, there is worship
there is the ultimate surrender
the ultimate gift of love and devotion

Nānak, in His benediction, in His benevolence
there is truth, there is transcendence ! (1)

the universe vibrates with cosmic music
my heart responds to the divine chord
beyond the illusions of māyā
there is meditation, there is reflection
the Guru has shown me the cosmic space
the beginning and the end of the universe
the measure of its own extensions
my heart vibrates with His love, with His devotion
Nānak, in cosmic union
there is music, there is celebration
the devotee vibrates with His sublime presence

how can one reach His eternal abode ?
how can one attain His truth and transcendence ?
with the Word of the Guru
there is truth, there is transcendence
there is benediction, there is benevolence

the austerities and the abstentions of the yogīs
the miracles and the spectacles of the sanyāsīs
lead the being astray
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is divine sway

the Guru is the treasure of virtue
the Guru is the ocean of pearls
the devotee bathes in His sublime waters
the five base senses are cleansed
there is meditation, there is reflection
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
the devotee enjoys all the pilgrimages

in the jungles, in the woods
the devotee searches in vain
the Creator of the three worlds and all spheres
enriches the divine creation with His sublime grain
Nānak, all perceptions are in His reflection
all salvation is in His dispensation ! (2)

my heart vibrates with His vision
with the vision of the Lord of the universe
who is the most sublime majesty
who is there from the beginning of the Time
who is, who will ever be
without whom this universe has no goal, no perception
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives His truth
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is divine perception

His meditations is the only support
in illusions and delusions, there is no hope
family and friends are all transitory
with the Word of the Guru
all temptations have fled
with the Word of the Guru
the heart vibrates with His omniscience
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is serenity, there is devotion
there is love, there is affection

in His meditation all impurities are gone
in His meditation all evil intentions are removed
in His meditation the demon of death is subdued
Nānak, in His meditation the devotee perceives the eternal light
she vibrates with His love, she lives in sublime delight

in His will the devotee perceives the righteous path
in His will she is surcharged with His presence
she is endowed with His benediction and benevolence
she enjoys the company of the seers and the sages
Nānak, rare are such yogīs and sanyāsīs
who subdue their five passions
who are tuned to His truth and transcendence ! (3)

the Creator transcends His creation
the devotee is saturated with His omniscience
she enjoys His bliss and the fruits of her deeds and devotion

in His will is the destruction of all sins and sufferance
in His will is all creation and consumption
in His will is eradicated all dirt and degeneration
in His will is separated the true from the false
right from the wrong
in His will is all creation
in His will the devotee perceives His truth, His transcendence

rare are those who reflect and perceive
they fear not the call of the demon of death
they live in His will
they play the right dice
they do not lose the battle of life

with the Word of the Guru
they reflect upon His nature
they vibrate with His culture

hail the Creator of the universe
who is the source of all activity
who is the source of all service and serenity
in His will there is credit, there is credence
in His will there is honour, there is benevolence

with the Word of the Guru
the devotee acquires the treasure of virtue
day and night she meditates, she reflects
in His will there is credit, there is credence
in His will there is honour, there is benevolence
in His will there is eternal bliss
there is eternal sublimation
in His meditation there is eternal serenity
there is peace, there is prosperity
Nānak, in His will the devotee lives in divine communion
she enjoys the fruits of her deeds and devotion
she is ever tuned to the hymns of His truth
she vibrates with love, she enjoys His divine refuge ! (4)

o black deer of my heart
beware of the ensuing dangers
these fruits of sins are sweet for only a few days
they are bound to be sour sooner or later
bereft of His reflection, it is all transitory
like the waves of the ocean or the flash of lightening
there is none other than His truth and transcendence
Nānak warns the black deer of the ensuing dangers

the black wasp of the wilderness
beware of the ensuing dangers
with the Word of the Guru, there is reflection
there is perception of the truth of life
the black wasp smells all the fragrant flowers
when the end is announced
when the night is dark
when the demon of death strikes the last hour
there is no succour, no help
Nānak warns the black wasp
beware of the ensuing dangers

o stranger, o traveller of the farthest lands
avoid all dangers of the illusions of māyā
avoid all calls of the demon of indulgence
the fish knows not the net of the fisherman
she falls to the temptations of his bait
this mind is deluded by the sparkling luxuries
Nānak warns the traveller of the farthest lands
beware of the ensuing danger

the rivers in spate lose the track of the ocean
in indulgence, in the snares of māyā
the yogīs forget the divine path
in delusion, the devotees lose their steady reflection
bereft of the Word of the Guru
they rue the rare opportunities of divine perception
in distress, they cry in vain
they suffer the eternal pain
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is union, there is divine communion ! (5)

ĀSĀ MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ
WĀR SLOKÃ NĀL SLOK BHĪ
MAHALĒ PAIHLĒ KĒ LIKHĒ
ṬŨḌĒ ASRĀJĒ KĪ DHUNĪ

SLOK MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ

hail the majesty of the Guru
who transforms men into gods
who moulds ordinary human beings
into the devotees of the Lord !

those who do not reflect upon the nature of the Creator
who indulge in clever chats, in fruitless discussions
Nānak, they are like wild plants in a dessert
they have no master, none to care for their heart and hearth

bereft of the bliss of the Guru
they are lost in wilderness
bereft of fruits and flowers
bereft of all life and learning
bereft of reflection
they are hollow
they perceive not the divine truth ! (2)

the Creator transcends His creation
His abode is in His sublime manifestation

in His benediction and benevolence
He enjoys His extensions

He surveys all actions, all dispensations
all creations, all consumptions
He is the Lord of His projections ! (3)

Thy sublime truth saturates Thy creation
Thy figures, Thy forms
Thy actions, Thy projections
so are true Thy reigns, Thy regiments
Thy will, Thy bliss
Thy benediction, Thy benevolence

they also radiate with truth
who meditate and reflect
who follow Thy will, Thy command
there are also Thy words, Thy hymns
Thy nature, Thy culture

but Nānak, they live in falsities and anxieties
they are caught in the eternal cycle
who know not Thy will
who follow not Thy truth ! (4)

hail the majesty of the Lord
whose grandeur is beyond all descriptions
beyond all articulations and projections
whose majesty is known for His truth and justice
for His eternal abode, for His omniscience
for His love and communion
for His benediction and benevolence
who is beyond all perceptions
in whose will are all actions, all dispensations ! (5)

Nānak, all follow His eternal judgement
the true and the false are differentiated

the sinners have their faces blackened
and pushed to the doors of hell

all deeds and delusions wait for His decision
all actions pass through the sieve of His sublime projection ! (6)

His creation is a sublime wonder
His music, His hymns
His forms, His figures
His beings, naked or clad
His air, His water; His fires, His fumes
His earths, His spheres
His indulgence, His protection
His union, His separation
all present the most wonderful spectacle

also in this sublime wonder
are those whose hunger and thirst are quenched
whose hearts vibrate with His rhythms
who follow Him, from far, from near
who enjoy His sublime presence

Nānak, also in this sublime wonder are those
who reflect upon this wonder of wonders
who perceive His eternal truth
who live in His bliss, in His divine refuge ! (7)

in His will is all activity, all creativity
all meditation, all reflection
all peace, all perception
all Vedas, Purāṇas and the learned discourses
all eating, all drinking, all indulgence
all friendships, all associations
all the affairs of this world

in His will are all vices, all virtues
all honours, all humiliations
all air, water and fire
all earths, all heavens
Nānak, it is all His creation
His projection, His perception ! (8)

all this indulgence, this infatuation
lead to a certain death
to a certain dissolution

the sinner is dragged in the court of the divine
where the deeds and the delusion are discerned
where there is no succour, no support
where the sinner submits to the final grind ! (9)

in His will the nature follows His order
the east and the west winds
the rivers, the oceans, the earths, the heavens
the court of Indra, the judgement of Dharmrāj
the sun, the moon, the siddhās, the buddhās
the gods, the yogīs, the valiant warriors

Nānak, all are caught in the eternal cycle
all follow His dictates
all worship the eternal Nirankār ! (10)

He is the unique sovereign
the unique master of His nature, of His culture
every other being is in His state, in His order
the Rāms, the Krishns
the devotees who vibrates with His rhythms
the jugglers, the bards
the kings, the queens
adorned with precious stones
they know not the transitory nature of the universe
they follow not His divine discourse
His perception is beyond all projection
it all depends upon His will, His perception ! (11)

in His bliss is the bliss of the Guru
in the Word of the Guru
there is love, there is union
there is presence, there is communion
there is reflection, there is perception
there is benediction, there is benevolence

in the Word of the Guru
the devotee follows the eternal truth
she is safe in His divine refuge
there is humility, there is serenity
in the Word of the Guru
there is perceptivity, there is sublimity ! (12)

the whole universe celebrates His cosmic vision
the devotees vibrate with his love and communion
the moments, the hours dance like the gopīs of Krishn
the air, the water, the fire, the sun, the moon
are the jewels of His maids
the seers, the sages vibrate with His hymns

Nānak, bereft of His perception
there is ignorance, there is agony
the world is in the grip of the demon of death and ignominy ! (13)

the disciples gather, the gurus dance
the feet move, the heads in trance
the hair are drenched in dirt and dust
people laugh and return home with ignorance
all this jugglery for a few loaves of bread
this indignity, this mockery, this stampede on earth

they enact plays of dancing girls and Krishns
of Sītas and Rāms, of kings and queens
they know not the truth of the Transcendent
they know not His sublime projections

the devotees worship their Creator
they live in His service, in His will
they vibrate with His hymns

with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
the devotees have the right perception
they are endowed with His benediction and benevolence

the wheels, the rounds, the circles
the whirlwinds, the churnings
the birds flying in the vast skies
the movements of the regions and the spheres
all celebrate His cosmic vision
Nānak, there is no end to such whirlwinds
to such movements, to such tribulations

in His will there are good deeds, there are devotions
the devotees dance to the tune of the celestial rhythms
Nānak, in dancing and deluge
the beings forget His transcendence, His truth
in His meditation, in His reflection
there is divine perception, there is sublimation ! (14)

in His meditation
there is no suffering, no pain
it is all His creation
all follow His strain
the devotees live in His will
in His benediction, in His bliss

when age takes over
when the last hour strikes
the being is helpless
there is no let-up
none can stop the final grind ! (15)

the Muslims follow their laws
the Hindus worship their idols
they go to pilgrimages for holy baths
the yogīs practice austerities and abstentions
they meditate upon Thy immanence

dualities and divisions are the order of the day
the thieves and the bandits rule the roost
they are drenched in dirty deals
the humble creatures of the earths and the heavens
the miserable humanity
all pray for Thy truth, for Thy transcendence
for Thy benevolence

Nānak, the devotees live in Thy will, in Thy bliss
they vibrate with the hymns of Thy communion
they yearn for Thy union ! (16)

the potter moulds beautiful forms
from the soil gathered from the Muslim graves
he makes pots and pitchers
he bakes them in the burning slates

all follow His creations, His constraints
Nānak, only the Creator knows the state of His creations
His projections, His dictates ! (17)

bereft of the bliss of the Guru
there is no perception, no reception
with the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is presence

with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation
there is reflection
there is no greed, no lust
there is faith
there is trust
the devotee vibrates with His truth
His transcendence
she enjoys His divine refuge
His sublime benevolence ! (18)

to be, to become
to feel His presence in one's inner self
seems to be an end itself
an affair of endless mental struggle

in the net of pride and prejudice
the being comes, goes
she is born, she dies
she gives, she takes
she earns, she loses
she subsists in imaginary thresholds

in the net of pride and prejudice
there are falsities and deceits
there are sins and sufferance
there are heavens and hells
there are sages, there are sinners
there are all the treats and tribulations

in the net of pride and prejudice
there are castes, there are classes
there are fools, there are ignorant
who are lost in conflicts and confusions
who cannot discern the right from the wrong
who live in delusions
who subsist in illusions

bereft of His perception
there is no knowledge, no truth
the ignorant is lost in the wilderness of the mind
she finds no solace in the final grind

Nānak, in His will is every reflection, every perception
His truth is transcendent
beyond all horizons
beyond all pretensions ! (19)

with patience and perception
the devotee reflects upon the sublime truth
she avoids all evil deeds
she follows the righteous path
breaking all worldly barriers
she subdues her pride and prejudice
she lives in His will, in His order
in His benediction, in His benevolence
in His transcendence ! (20)

only the Sovereign Lord knows His creation, His creatures
His men, His women, His nature, His culture
all those who are born of wombs, of eggs
all those who live in rivers, in mountains
Nānak, the Creator bestows upon His creation
His love, His benediction
Nānak hails the Lord of the universe
whose support is eternal
who is the benefactor of all seers and sages ! (21)

there are millions of virtues
and millions of vices
there are millions of pilgrimages
and millions of yogīs
there are millions of warriors
and millions who sacrifice their lives for divine perception
there are millions who reflect upon His nature
and millions who read the Purāṇas for comprehension
it is all in His will, in His benevolence

Nānak, all discourses are in vain
only His truth and transcendence have the right grain ! (22)

hail the true Lord, the Sovereign of earths and heavens
whose truth transcends His creation
the devotees who are blessed by the Lord
live in His truth, in His transcendence

with the Word of the Guru
the devotees vibrate with His truth
the ignorant have no perception
their life is a wanton waste
their birth in this world is of no avail ! (23)

all these learned discourses
all these debates and discussions
all these texts of erudition
all these labours of the years
in learning, in reading
in projections, in pretensions
lead the being astray

Nānak, there is but one unique perception
all other retentions lead to utter deception ! (24)

all these austerities and abstentions
all these learning and searches
all these pilgrimages and wanderings
all these disguises and sufferings
all these fasts and preventions
all these tortures and tribulations
all these naked assertions
are of no avail
they lead to no truth, no gain

bereft of the bliss of the Guru
these silences, these sufferings
all this eating rotten food
and smearing the bodies with ashes
living in graveyards, in deserted places
all these frivolities
lead the being to no truth, no gain

with the bliss of the Guru
there is benediction, there is benevolence
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is the right perception of His truth and transcendence ! (25)

the devotees live in Thy bliss
they vibrate with Thy hymns
and there are others
who are suspended in the wilderness of the mind
they perceive no truth
they brag and brat
they are scared of the final grind

I am Thy humble bard
others boast of class and caste
I seek Thy blessings
and the blessings of the seers and the sages
who live in Thy will, who enjoy Thy bliss ! (26)

the kings, the queens, the subjects
all live in delusion, in falsity and illusion
deluded are also the palaces, the princes
the gold, the silver, the ornaments
deluded are also the bodies, the robes, the beautiful forms
the husbands, the wives, the estranged minds

the Lord is forgotten
the whole world is in deluge
Nānak, all delusion is deceptive
all illusion is depressive
the divine truth lies in His transcendence
in His benediction and benevolence ! (27)

His truth is perceived
when the heart vibrates with love and union
the dirt of evil is washed, the body is cleansed with communion

His truth is perceived
when the devotee lives in truth
in meditation and reflection, in His sublime refuge

His truth is perceived
when the devotee follows the righteous path
ploughs the field with devotion
and sows the seeds of reflection

His truth is perceived
when the devotee follows the path of piety
when she lives in renunciation and charity

His truth is perceived
when the soul resides in the sacred space
when she reflects and follows the divine pace

Nānak, His truth transcends all sins and suffering
His devotees are endowed with His benediction and benevolence ! (28)

hail those devotees
who live with their good deeds and devotions
they are blessed
blessed is also the dust of their feet
shedding all greed and lust
they meditate and reflect
as they act
so do they receive the fruits of their deeds

in the company of those seers and sages
there is benediction, there is benevolence ! (29)

there is no truth, no trust
with falsities and factions
it is the dark age of the demon
the seeds of evil deeds are swept away
there is no growth, no blossoming of the flowers

only good seeds bear fruit
the rotten, polluted seeds are sterile
Nānak, the dirty clothes acquire no freshness, no colour
there is delusion, there is guile

in the inner layers of my heart
there is reflection, there is divine colour
Nānak, when the heart vibrates with love
when the seeds are sown with devotion
there is growth, there is projection ! (30)

it is the dark age of absolute deceptions
the greed and the sins are the king and the minister
and falsity is their chief
they follow the advice of passion and derision
their subjects are blind to all truth and justice
they are drenched in evil deeds

the chiefs brag and brat
they narrate the legends of their imaginary battles
the pundits applaud their false glory
they deceive the innocent and pile up looted wealth
some proclaim the discipline of a yogī
others show no humility

Nānak, in this dark age of sin and suffering
He is the only truth, He is the only refuge ! (31)

the Creator transcends His creation
He is witness to all deeds and delusions
there are some who suffer and struggle
and others who are stuck in illusions
none can perceive His truth, His projections
without His will, without His benevolence ! (32)

in His bliss
there is meditation, there is reflection
bereft of His bliss
there is no action, no dispensation
in His bliss
there is creation, there is consumption

there are some who are graced
and others who suffer for ever
with the grace of the Guru
there is knowledge, there is reflection
there is steady sublimation ! (33)

in His will is every action, every dispensation
suffering leads to sublimation

as the Creator wills, so it is done
in this nature of wondrous hues
there is no end to His manifestation

where there is life, there is His light
where there is reflection, there is His perception

the devotees meditate upon His projections
Nānak, His spectacle has wondrous hues
His dispensation knows no bounds, no limitation ! (34)

as the water is held by the pot
so the mind is held by reflection
without water the pot has no function
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no meditation, no perception ! (35)

if the learned is led by the evil deeds
none follows his devilish lead
as he sows, so does he reap
do not play the dice where the defeat is certain
the learned and the innocent get the same dispensation
none can alter His projection ! (36)

Nānak, there is always a chariot and a charioteer
in every age we have one or the other
in the age of Sat, the chariot of truth and temperance
is driven by deeds and devotion
in the age of Treta, the chariot of force and ferment
is driven by the valiant and the brave
in the age of Duapar, the chariot of austerities and abstentions
is driven by chastity and charity
in the dark age of Kali, the chariot of greed and lust
is driven by delusions and dust ! (37)

in Sām Ved, we are referred to the age of truth and temperance
in Rig Ved, Rām is supposed to be supreme
he eradicates all evil, all suffering
in Yajur Ved, the supreme god is Krishn
a Yādv god who played with the gopīs in Vrindavan
in Kaliyug, the Athur Ved was the main discourse
where God was called, Khuda or Allah
where the Turks ruled the country with their blue attire
the Vedas presented their reflections
their projections and their perceptions
Nānak what matters is the love of the Lord
in His meditation and reflection
there is eternal salvation ! (38)

hail the Guru who has led me to His reflection
with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation
there is perception

bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is ignorance
there is deception

the Word of the Guru is the sublime light
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee crosses the river of life ! (39)

the Simmal tree is tall and beautiful
but those who approach it leave in despair
its fruits have no taste
no flavour

Nānak, there are virtues in humility
none in false projection
none in hypocrisy

one who bows in state measures heavy in scale
but there are those who pretend and descend to any state
their heads bow
their hearts do not follow His dictate ! (40)

with learned discourses and debates
with the worship of the idols
and the cynicism of the crane
with falsities and deceptions
with the ritual repetition of the sacred mantras
with the ceremonial robes of piety
there is hypocrisy, there is anxiety

Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is no ceremony, no superstition
the devotee has faith and fortitude
she is blessed by His beatitude ! (41)

all these forms and figures
will be left behind
the deeds and delusions
will go through the final grind

the haughty demeanours
will follow the narrowest of the lanes
in the darkest alleys of the hell
the demon of death will drag the sinner
it will be too late for repentance
too late for reflection
and an act humane ! (42)

if your cotton is of kindness
and the threads are of patience
if the knots are of self control
and the turns are of truth

o pāḍē, if you have the jenēu of these elements
I will be happy to wear it
it does not break, it is not soiled
it does not burn, it is not lost
Nānak, blessed is he who wears such a jenēu

your jenēu, o pāḍē, is worth four pebbles
it is drenched in ceremony and superstition
in false discourse and deception
it does not transcend death and destruction ! (43)

in falsities and factions
in derisions and deceptions
the ignorant is led astray
the ceremonial thread serves no purpose
made of transitory cotton
it is destined to degeneration
Nānak, the thread of meditation and reflection lasts for ever
the devotee wears it with love and devotion ! (44)

in meditation
the devotee vibrates with the thread of truth
in reflection, there is divine refuge

there is love
there is union
there is perception
there is communion ! (45)

there is no sacred thread for the senses
none for the passions
there is no thread for feet
none for the hands
there is no thread for the tongue
none for the eyes
to subdue passions, to meditate and reflect
the pundit wanders around
without this thread, without this discipline

he offers his fake, ceremonial thread
at marriages, at all important occasions
he offers his advice to all
who are deceived by such pretensions
what a spectacle, my friend
the world is led by a man
who is drenched in superstitions
in dualities and divisions ! (46)

in His will is all meditation, all reflection
the devotee serves the Lord
she reflects and perceives the divine projection
in His bliss and benevolence
she acquires steady serenity
she is blessed with His sublimity ! (47)

the cow, the cowdung, the brahman
all lead the being astray
the ceremonial robes, the religious costumes
the riches, the luxuries are a matter of days

shed all deceits and deceptions
all dualities and divisions
to reflect upon His sublimity
to achieve divine perceptivity ! (48)

they suck the blood of the poor
and pretend to pray to Allah
they kill the innocent with their deceptive knives
and wear the sacred thread
the brahman comes for the daily rituals
and partakes the same polluted food
all affairs are drenched in dirt and deception
all discourses are replete with conflicts and confusions
deeds and devotions have no place
Nānak, the dark night of falsehood is spread all over

with the sacred mark on the forehead and the holy robe
the priests wield the sword of deception
they wear blue robes to be accepted in the courts of the Turks
they eat their polluted food, they worship their gods
and pretend the purity of their sacred places
they clean their courtyards with the holy cowdung
but their minds are polluted, their senses are numbed

Nānak, purity lies in pure acts, in sublime perceptions
in serenity and charity, in noble projections ! (49)

in His will is every action
in His will is every faction
in His will is all dispensation
in His will the lowest of the lowest attain salvation
in His will the sultāns are reduced to utter dejection ! (50)

all charities for ancestor worship
for ceremonial rituals
from the wealth acquired by theft and deception
are no charities, no rituals, no devotions
all evil deeds and deceptions are revealed
in the court of the divine judge
in the court of divine projections
Nānak, in the cosmic vision of the Lord
there are deeds and devotions
there are meditations and reflections ! (51)

as the blood of a woman is released at regular intervals
so the tongue of a thug betrays falsity and deception
there is no ritual purity
the purity of the mind is the only purity
Nānak, all purity is due to His perception
when the heart beats with His reflection ! (52)

horses and chariots and the magnificent palaces
luxuries and wealth and the servants and the soldiers
lead the beings astray
lost in the false glory of the world
they forget their Lord
restless, anxious, they are drenched in dismay

when the last hour strikes
there is no glory, no youth, no ambition
there is no perception, no reflection ! (53)

if we believe in sūtak
if we believe in ritual purity
the pollution of birth is every where
there is no escape from the living and the moving
there is life even in wood and cowdung
there is growth in every grain
there are living beings in water, in rain
our homes, our courtyards are all swept by sūtak
every being, in every cosmos follows the same refrain

Nānak, the purity of life lies only in divine purity
only in His reflection and perception, only in His sublimity ! (54)

the pollution of the mind lies in deception
the pollution of the tongue lies in falsity and faction
the pollution of the eyes is their greed, their passion
the pollution of the ears is listening to conflicts and confusions

Nānak, the estranged being is polluted for his evil deeds
for his dualities and divisions
for his deception and dejection ! (55)

all this pollution is superstition
in His will is all birth and death
in His will is all creation and consumption
all food is purified by reflection and devotion
Nānak, those who are blessed by His perception
do not suffer from any pollution, any superstition ! (56)

with the blessings of the Guru
the devotees vibrate with His love, with His hymns

in His cosmic extensions, there is divine reflection
in His audience, in His presence
there is perception, there is omniscience

in His will, all evils are eradicated
all sins are sublimated ! (57)

all purities, all exclusions
all superstitions, all confusions
serve no purpose, propose no solutions
the food prepared with all the ceremonies
with all the metaphysical precautions
with all the ritual recitations
lead the beings astray
food, water, fire, salt, oil
are all pure and sacred
but with the contact with a sinner
all purity is lost, all sanctity vanishes
the mind that is bereft of divine reflection
is the most impure, most polluted
Nānak, the true purity is the purity of the mind
it vibrates with His love, with His reflection divine ! (58)

with woman there is birth
with woman there is betrothal
with woman there is marriage
with woman there is family, there are friends
at the death of a woman, there is another woman
with women are all friendly relations

how can a woman be called an evil creature
who gives birth to princes
who is the cause of all creations
Nānak, only the sublime Lord is beyond all cause and effect
beyond all birth and death

the heart that beats for His love is the blessed heart
it is beyond all gender and caste
it is saturated with His omniscience
it vibrates with His benediction and benevolence ! (59)

every being insists on his own discourse
on his own thought, on his own course

in this transitory world
conflicts and confusions lead the being astray
pride and prejudice have their sway
there is none to be condemned
none to be praised
debates and discussions lead the being astray

there is divine perception in His meditation and reflection
there is love and union in His sublime projection ! (60)

Nānak, in conflicts and confusions
there is no honour, no reception
there is nothing but derisions and divisions
the fool is drenched in deception
there is dishonour, there is dejection ! (61)

those who live by treacheries and temptations
are restless souls
they have no peace, no serenity
their pilgrimages, their holy dips serve no purpose
they remain drenched in dirt and deceptions
those who are sincere, who reflect and meditate
they are blessed by the Lord
they vibrate with His presence, with His omniscience
they are bestowed with His benediction, with His benevolence
Nānak, there is but one unique judgement
none can escape its justice, its projection ! (62)

there are all kinds of creatures, all types of beings
when the last hour strikes
they all follow the eternal grind
in meditation and reflection
they are saturated with His perception ! (63)

in His service, there is peace and serenity
the devotee vibrates with His presence, with His piety
deeds and devotions are measured in His audience
as you sow, so do you reap
virtues and vices lead to restlessness, to anxiety
the devotee is immersed in meditation and reflection
to comprehend His will, His projection ! (64)

our articulation follows our reflection
our deeds lead to a certain reception
those who deal in poison
nectar is beyond their expectation ! (65)

in His will the devotee serves her Lord
in His will she is blessed, she is honoured
bereft of His will, there is pain, there is suffering
Nānak, with devotion and piety the devotee lives in His bliss
she prays for His love, for His benevolence ! (66)

the Creator transcends His creation
He is beyond all extension, all projection
in His will is all creation, all consumption
there are some who are graced
and others who suffer for ever
in His will is all action, all dispensation
Nānak, in His will is all reflection, all perception ! (67)

it is He who creates the pots
it is He who fills them
full of milk and honey
they embellish our homes

there are some who suffer austerities
and others who are bestowed with luxuries
Nānak, those who live in His will
live in plenty, in the richness of His charities ! (68)

His perception is beyond all reflection
the creatures follow His will, His projection
Nānak, He is the unique Lord
the unique benediction ! (69)

RĀG GŪJRĪ

RĀG GŪJRĪ MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ
CHAUPADĒ GHAR PAIHLĀ

there are some who worship the Lord
with the paste of sandalwood
with the stone of Ursa
with the mixture of camphor
and there are others who meditate and reflect
instead of washing the stones, the idols
they wash the dirt of mind
the dirt of dualities and divisions

the cows eat grass and give invigorating milk
the humans fed on greed and lust
breed hatred and jealousy
the omniscient Lord perceives the truth of all worship
the truth of meditation and reflection ! (1)

born of lotus Brahma articulated the four Vedas
but he could not perceive His truth, His transcendence

in His will the devotee reflects and meditates
in His will the seers and the sages perceive
His truth, His transcendence

in His sublime projection
the sun and the moon serve as two lamps
in the Word of the Guru
there is light, there is perception

in austerities and penance
the siddhās struggle for His benediction
with the Word of the Guru
there is peace and serenity, there is benevolence

the gods, the seers, the yogīs
all attempt to perceive His projections
Nānak, only in His bliss
there is presence, there is reception ! (2)

RĀG GŪJRĪ
AṢṬPADĪÃ

this body is struck by five thieves
the five passions with their evil designs
are at their nefarious task
the one who controls these passions is saved
there is reflection, there is sublimation

the net of māyā covers all earth
it has sway over hearts and hearths
the four Vedas explain its conflicts and confusions
its lust and temptations
Nānak, in meditation and reflection
the devotee acquires its truth and perception

the Lord is the sublime tree with the leaves of truth
it is the light that shines in the entire universe
in His reflection, in the perception of His discourse
there is benediction, there is benevolence

Nānak prays for truth and transcendence
for the freedom from all greed and passions
for the freedom from all death and delusion
in His will the Sikh and the Guru perceive His projection
in His will there is no evil, no passion

with the grace of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
with the grace of the Guru
there is eternal sublimation
with the grace of the Guru
there is love, there is affection

the sublime lotus of the Lord has its roots in every heart
there is light, there is growth, there is transcendence
the devotee drinks the nectar of reflection
she is saved from the net of deception ! (1)

there is no limit to His benediction
there is no limit to His benevolence
the devotee lives in His will
in His reflection and meditation
she is bestowed with His sublime perception

in the absolute silence of the universe
in the beginning of times was Thy Word
there was no water, no air, no earth, no sky
there were no attributes, no illusions, no delusions
no sun, no moon, nor the manifestation of any light
Thy form was embedded in Thy immanence

with Thy Word there was movement
there was water, there was air, there was fire
there were Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva
there were siddhās, sages, seers
all lived in Thy will, in Thy benevolence

those who live in Thy will live in Thy bliss
bereft of Thy reflection
there is no perception, no projection

with the grace of the Guru
there is peace, there is serenity
there is the union of the Creator and His creatvity

those who live in Thy will are beyond all conflicts and confusions
beyond the cycle of birth and death
beyond all illusions
Nānak prays for peace and prosperity
for the nectar of meditation and serenity ! (2)

bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is eternal cycle
there is delusion, there is desolation

in the Guru's refuge, there is love, there is truth
there is honour, there is steady serenity
there are hymns of sublimity

disguises and deceptions lead the being astray
bereft of the grace of the Guru
the being is caught in the net of passions
there is no escape from sin and sufferance
the demon of death drags the sinner
the cycle of births and deaths smothers all projections

in the grace of the Guru
the devotee lives beyond time and space
beyond all pains and sufferance
the devotee perceives His truth, His transcendence
there is no fear, no ferment

in His will is every action, every dispensation
in His refuge is every support, every hope
in His will the devotee prays for His love and union
in His will there is generosity, there is communion
in His will there is meditation, there is reflection
in His will there is eternal sublimation

Nānak prays for the diamond of reflection
to wear it as a necklace of perception ! (3)

there is no high, no low
the devotees meditate and reflect
upon His omniscience, upon His presence
those who renounce passion and lust
who reflect and perceive His eternal truth
are the true yogīs, are the true sanyāsīs
they live in His faith, in His trust

they are beyond the pains of union and separation
they live in His grace, in His will
they reflect upon the sublime Word of the Guru
they are beyond the reach of death and desolation

in His will there is meditation, there is reflection
bereft of His will there is restlessness and dejection
in His will there is peace, there is prosperity
there is no place for greed and jealousy

with the grace of the Guru
there is eternal benevolence
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is pain, there is sufferance

with the Word of the Guru
all elements are transformed into pure gold
into sublime truth and transcendence

Nānak prays to the Lord
who is the most splendid tree
under whose shade
there is eternal peace and serenity ! (4)

those who live in truth and love
those who pray for peace and prosperity
live in His truth, in His divine refuge

in His reflection, the devotee crosses the river of life
in His reflection, there is divine light
in His reflection, there is sublime perception
in His reflection, there is love, there is affection
there is no greed, no lust
there is love and trust
His abode is sublime, His reflection is divine
bereft of His reflection, there is no peace, no projection

with the Word of the Guru
there is knowledge, there is perception
there is sublime purity, there is divine serenity

in His will and fear, the devotee lives in His refuge
she enjoys the sublimity of His presence
the protection of His omniscience
Nānak, the devotee sheds all greed and lust
to live in His love and trust ! (5)

RĀG BIHĀGṚĀ
BIHĀGṚĒ KĪ WĀR MAHALĀ CHAUTHĀ

SLOK MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ

Nānak those who are born in Kaliyug
their off-springs are demons and devils
their women are the victims of the evil spirits !

the Hindus have followed the fallacious path
the blind and the dumb are drenched in darkness
on the advice of Nārad they worship stones
those who are drowning themselves with heavy idols
how can they help the others across ?

RĀG WAḌHANS

RĀG WAḌHANS MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ
PADĒ

as the addict is thirsty for wine
and the fish for water
as the devotee lives in meditation
so the beloved longs for her Love

those who are saturated with His truth
need no other refuge
hail the Lord of all projection
whose reflection is the sublime addiction

like a splendid old tree
the Lord protects all His devotees
there is nectar in its fruits
there is shade under its branches
the Lord surveys the whole universe
in its manifestation, in its immanence
the being is caught in dualities and divisions
she does not perceive His truth, His transcendence

Nānak, there are diamonds and pearls in His meditation and presence
His reflection is the greatest treasure
in His grace, there is benediction, there is benevolence ! (1)

the devotees worship the Lord with good deeds and devotion
the sinners suffer from their dualities, their deceptions
with love and devotion, with meditation and reflection
there is redemption, there is divine perception

there is but one unique Sovereign
the treasure of virtues and benediction
with the devotion of thought and action
with the sacred thread of piety and perception
the devotee prepares the prayer beads
of precious reflection, of golden affection

the one who knows not the righteous path
the one who has no faith, no fortitude
cannot live in purity and piety
cannot live in His beatitude

Nānak, there is but one unique Sovereign
the devotee lives in His will, in His bliss
she enjoys His benediction, His benevolence ! (2)

the rainy season of Sāwan is there
the peacocks are dancing and singing
their big beautiful eyes have seduced the Lord

hail the Lord of all universe
hail His reflection and perception
hail His abode and projection
the devotee lives in love and affection

o ignorant being
these beautiful bangles, these beautiful hands
are of no avail
when there is no prayer, no perception
when the being is estranged
when the Lord is away
when there is no hug, no affection
when there is no response, no reception
in loneliness, in separation
there is anxiety, there is restlessness

all preparations, all decorations
all embellishment, all fragrance
are of no avail
when there is no response, no reception
the devotee shares her anguish with her friends
with the flowers and the birds of the garden

the devotee meets her Love in a voluptuous dream
awakened, she awaits with anxiety, with duality

Nānak , she is thirsty, she is hungry for His message, for His love
she would offer her head, her whole being
to the messenger who brings His good news, His good tidings ! (3)

RĀG WAḌHANS
CHHANT

the dirt of dirty deeds cannot be washed away
with ritual baths, with superficial ceremonies
the only true bath is the bath of truth
when the heart vibrates with truth
when the devotee lives in truth
there is purity, there is perception

with deeds and devotion
with meditation and reflection
with the Word of the Guru
there are all the sacred baths, all cleansing
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no bath, no purity

in His will is every meditation, every reflection
there is nectar in His recitation
there is peace, there is perception
the devotee prays for His benediction, for His benevolence

in His bliss is every devotion, every dedication
in His bliss is every virtue, every articulation
in His bliss is peace and prosperity
in His bliss is patience and verity

all pray for His bliss and benediction
for His love and affection
Nānak, in His will is His projection
in His will is His meditation, His reflection ! (1)

I pray for Thy bliss, for Thy benediction
Thy creation is sustained by Thy will and order
Thou art the reason of every creature, every projection

in Thy will there are some who are graced
who are elevated as princes
and others, fallen from Thy grace
they are wretched, they suffer for ever

Thou art the source of all faith and fortitude
Thou art the source of all meditations and reflections
Thou art the truth incarnate
in Thy will all sins and sufferance are eradicated
in Thy will the wise and the sage perceive Thy transcendence
there are some who are graced
and others, caught in the snares of māyā
these fools forget their Lord
they are stuck in the eternal cycle

Thy Word is the sublime nectar
the devotee is sublimated in Thy presence
there is reflection, there is divine perception
there is life, there is light
there is movement, there is sight

in Thy Word is all recognition
in Thy bliss is all benediction
Thy Word is the sublime nectar
Thy presence bestows the devotee with love and affection

hail the Sovereign of all lands
of all spheres, of all regions
in Thy reign there is peace and prosperity
the devotee lives in absolute sincerity
she sheds all dualities and divisions
she lives in meditation and reflection

through the ages, the devotees enjoy Thy bliss
they sing Thy hymns, they exalt Thy truth
they live in Thy benevolence
their dualities are dissipated
their divisions are blown away

they live in Thy will
they suffer not the demon of death
through the ages, they enjoy Thy bliss

Thou art beyond all extensions
beyond all expanses
in Thy bliss is the recognition of truth
in Thy reflection is the divine refuge
in Thy vision all pain and anguish are eradicated
in Thy bliss there are no conflicts, no confusions
in Thy bliss there are no dualities, no divisions
Thou art beyond all extensions, beyond all expanses

dear friends, my Love is a cosmic being
He appears in the most ravishing form
He has beautiful eyes and brilliant teeth
an elegant nose and long hair
radiating body with golden allure
adorned with the most magnificent necklace of precious stones

dear friends, think of my Love
reflect upon His will and order
for benediction, for the right perception of His truth and transcendence

my Love has beautiful eyes and brilliant teeth
He appears in the most ravishing form

my Love has elegant gait and brilliant allure
with sweet musical voice
singing like a cuckoo in the rising rhythms of youth
with the gait of an intoxicated elephant
with perfect grace, with perfect movement
smooth and serene like the flow of the Ganges
with cosmic vision, with benediction and benevolence

Nānak prays for the love and affection of the Lord of the universe
who has elegant gait and golden allure
who appears in the most ravishing form ! (2)

RĀG WAḌHANS MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ
ALĀHṆĪÃ

hail the Lord of the universe
the Lord of all life and death
when the last hour strikes
when the allotted days come to an end
when the soul is separated from the body
the good and bad deeds await His judgement
hail the Lord of the universe
the Lord of all life and death

dear friend, meditate and reflect
one day this spectacle will be over
the hour of departure awaits us all
like a guest, this worldly stay is short
meditate and reflect to perceive the truth of the Transcendent

none can force his way, his wish
in His will is every action, every dispensation
dear friend, meditate and reflect
one day this spectacle will be over

in His will is every creation, every consumption
the Sovereign surveys His universe
the earths, the heavens, the oceans and the underworld
the Sovereign of the universe is immanent
His manifestation is known to none
in His will is every creation, every consumption

Nānak, veiling and crying serve no purpose
all this wealth and luxury
all this indulgence and plenty
is subject to decay, to destruction
all that is born must die
all that grows must wither
nothing lasts in this transitory world

Nānak, the devotee veils and cries
to perceive the truth of the Transcendent
to be blessed by His benediction and benevolence ! (1)

come friends, let us meditate and reflect
upon the truth of the Transcendent
let us mourn the departed
let us remember the Lord
in His will is all life and death
the deeds and the delusions
the judgement of all our actions
come friends, let us meditate and reflect
upon the truth of the Transcendent

dear friends, do not lament, do not repent
those who die in love and devotion
those who live in His reflection and perception
find peace and serenity
they are honoured in His presence
they radiate in His omniscience
dear friends, do not lament, do not repent

the valiant, the brave die in faith and fortitude
they vibrate with His sublime truth
their valour is honoured
their devotion is respected
in His will, in His bliss
they shed fear and ferment
they live in His omniscience
the valiant, the brave die in faith and fortitude
they vibrate with His sublime truth

Nānak, do not lament, do not repent
meditate and reflect upon the truth of the Transcendent
the Creator transcends His creation
in every action, in every dispensation
He knows the right from the wrong
the devotion from desolation
He surveys the whole creation

Nānak, do not lament, do not repent
meditate and reflect upon the truth of the Transcendent ! (2)

hail the Lord of the universe
the preserver and the protector of all
self-created, beyond all limits and thresholds
the Creator of heaven and earth
of sun and moon, of day and night
the eternal sovereign, the sublime benevolence
the cause of all effect, of sin and sufferance
of peace and prosperity, of divine serenity
of men and women
of their truth and temperance
of their anguish and anxieties

hail the Lord of the universe
the Creator of four regions
of all facets of the manifest and the immanent world
the Creator of life and death, of the eternal cycle
of the living and the departed

bereft of His reflection
there is sin, there is sufferance
there is conflict, there is confusion
there is duality, there is division

when the last hour strikes
when the last call is announced
when the loved ones depart
there is no support, no hope

in His will, in His bliss
the dead and the departed meet
in His will, in His bliss
the young and the old leave
the nine doors of the body are closed
the souls depart for the last home
the bride mourns her Love
she cries in vain
the devotee mourns the departed
she reflects upon the truth of His projection
upon the mysterious ways of the Transcendent

when the last hour strikes
the dead body is given a sacred bath
it is clad in the robes of silk
there are ceremonies, there is music and chanting

the bride mourns her Love
the devotee reflects upon the truth of His projection
upon the mysterious ways of the Transcendent

mourn, my friend, mourn
there is nothing but mourning
in this world of falsities and deception
the inevitable has to happen
follow the righteous path and His sublime perception

with the grace of the Guru
there is meditation and reflection
there is love and affection

Nānak, the devotees live in His will, in His bliss
in His righteous path, in His sublime perception ! (3)

the Creator is immersed in His creation
the devotee reflects upon His nature
upon His truth, upon His omniscience
in His reflection, there is peace, there is serenity
in His will is every action, every selection
every deed, every reception
in His will is every birth, every death
with deeds and devotion the devotee attains His perception

the world is stuck in dualities and divisions
the Creator transcends His creation
the being is lost in conflicts and confusions

the path to hell is dark and depressing
there is no water, no food
naked, the sinner is dragged by the demon of death
at every step, there is beating, there is flogging
at every moment, there is lamentation, there is repentance

dear friend, mourn the demise of all delusions
of all sins and sufferance, of all dualities and deceptions
all mourning is in vain
it leads the being from one darkness to another
to the wilderness of the mind
to the wretchedness of the soul

Nānak, with the Word of he Guru
the devotee discerns the truth of the Transcendent
the mystery of life and death ! (4)

Bābā, all that is created is consumed
all that comes, goes
this world is nothing but a delusion
the devotee reflects upon the divine truth of this illusion
greed and deception lead to the dark alley of repentance
none welcomes the sinner
none offers him solace

there is eternal cycle, there is eternal separation
the whole world is caught in the snares of māyā
the fear of death is the cause of all pain and anguish

come friends, let us meditate and reflect upon His truth
upon the mysterious ways of the Lord of the universe
with the Word of the Guru
there is serenity, there is perception
there is no lust, no greed
no fear of death, no fear of the last judgement
the Sovereign of the universe surveys His domain
in meditation and reflection, there is no anguish, no pain

Bābā, blessed are those who live in His will
they vibrate with His love and affection

Bābā, naked the being comes in this world
and naked does he leave
his deeds decide his fate and fortune
the talisma of māyā ensnares the whole world
the being loses his sense of judgement, of right and wrong
Bābā, the naked the being comes in this world
and naked does he leave

dear friends, mourn, if you must
the dead and the departed do not return
one must follow the divine dictate
the mourners mourn in vain
they mourn for their kith and kin
for their indulgence, for their loves

Bābā, mourn if you must for the dead and departed
and meditate and reflect upon the truth of the Transcendent
to perceive the mysterious ways of the Lord of the universe ! (5)

WAḌHANS KĪ WĀR MAHALĀ CHAUTHĀ

SLOK MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ

burn these rites and rituals
which deflect the being from meditation and reflection
from divine projection, from sublime perception

Nānak, the heart that beats with the rhythms of the Lord
is the heart blessed, is the heart honoured !

in the solitude of His absence
the devotee suffers in separation
in His will, in His perception
there is union, there is sublimation !

Nānak, bereft of His reflection
it is all false and deception
bereft of His benevolence and benediction
there is no serenity, no reception !

RĀG SORAṬH

SORAṬH MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ
GHAR PAIHLĀ, CHAUPADĒ

death is certain and so is separation
ask the sage for his advice, for his reflection
those who live in His will suffer not
they perceive His truth, His transcendence
praise be to the Lord
who is, who will ever be
the benefactor and preserver of all
in His will is every death, every separation

pride hath a fall
the palaces, the drums of victory do not last for ever
death smothers all ambitions, all designs
before the sword of judgement
all pride and haughtiness are in vain
Nānak, sins and vices lead to the infernal chain
only good deeds and virtue can save thee
shed all whims and vices
to be received with honour, with benevolence ! (1)

with the mind steadied as the plough of devotion
with the water of honest labour and the field of purity
with the seeds of reflection and the leveller of patience
with the robe of poverty and the prayer of piety
the devotee harvests the crop of reflection
of divine blessing and benediction

Bābā, all this wealth, all this pride and pretence is a matter of days
the ignorant are stuck in this illusion
only a few discern its truth, its fusion

with the trade of truth
with meditation and reflection
with the credit of perception
the devotee enjoys His bliss, His benediction

with the advice of the seers and sages
with the horses of good deeds and the merchandise of devotion
the devotee departs for the unknown lands
in His service, in His servitude
in His faith, in His fortitude
Nānak, there is peace and serenity
there is eternal sublimity ! (2)

as the son is dear to the parents
so is the son-in-law to the in-laws
as the daughter is dear to her father
so is the brother to his brother

when the last hour strikes
all these indulgence and attachments are left behind
without His grace there is no escape from the infernal grind

in His meditation, in His reflection, there is steady serenity
in His bliss, in His devotion, there is sublimity

bereft of divine reflection the devotee is stuck in illusions
her mind is restless, her heart suffers anxiety and anguish
stung by the poison of passion
there is no respite, no serenity
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no knowledge, no discerning
no honour, no reception

bereft of the advice of the seers and the sages
bereft of divine reflection
the being is lost in wilderness, in falsities and deceptions
bereft of His grace
there is no escape from the final judgement

in the Word of the Guru, in its enunciation
there is no fear, no faction
there is divine projection

Nānak, bereft of the grace of the Guru
there are anxieties, there are superstitions
but with His truth and transcendence
there is benediction, there is benevolence ! (3)

Thou art immersed in Thy creation
the earths, the oceans serve as Thy resting places
the four spheres above are Thy attic
Thou one Word led to the creation of planets
to the flow of waters
Thou art the creator of this most splendid spectacle
Thou light pervades the entire universe
there are all kinds of creatures, animate and inanimate
Thou art the unique unity of this sublime universe

Nānak prays for Thy benediction and benevolence
for the sustenance of all beings, of all devotees
this life is laden with heavy stones of sins and sufferance
the devotee seeks Thy benevolence to be taken across the river of life
from the darkness of ignorance to the sublime light ! (4)

drenched in vices and sins
the devotee seeks His refuge
she pleads for His mercy, for His benevolence
she follows His Word
she obeys His will, she hopes for His bliss

the devotee meditates and reflects
upon her vices, upon her sins
she reflects upon His nature, upon His culture
she perceives His truth
she finds in faith and fortitude
the divine refuge

day and night there is music, there is celebration
the devotee is immersed in His love, in His devotion
she enjoys His presence, His omniscience

Nānak , with the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives the mystery of the universe
she discerns the rhythms of His sublime verse! (5)

hail the Lord of the universe
who is beyond all time or tribulations
beyond all classes and creeds, beyond all dualities and divisions
beyond all conflicts and confusions
hail the Lord of truth and transcendence
who is beyond all forms or figures
whose Word is the cause of all creation
hail the Lord of the universe
who is beyond all indulgence
who is beyond the bonds of parents and children
who is beyond all passions and pleasures
who is the purity incarnate
whose light pervades the entire universe
who enlightens all regions and spheres

with the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives His truth, His transcendence
she perceives the extensions of divine time and space
she perceives the divine path
in the pure heart of the devotee resides the purest of His thoughts
Nānak, with the blessings of the Guru
the devotee perceives the sublime truth ! (6)

as the fish perishes without water
so the indulgent dies of tribulations
the devotee lives in His will
she vibrates with His bliss
with the grace of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no reflection, no perception
in the company of the noble souls
in the company of the seers and the sages
there are all the sacred baths, all the pilgrimages
in the grace of the Guru
there is serenity, there is purity

bereft of His discipline, there is no yoga
bereft of temperance, there is no penance
bereft of reflection, there is no perception
the body withers in desolation

there is no peace for the indulgent, for the ignorant
there is no purity, no tranquillity in His absence
Nānak, temperance and tribulations depend upon His will
serenity and sublimity are in His bliss ! (7)

in the court of the Lord
in His sublime benevolence
the devotee is a humble mendicant
all gifts are transitory, temporary consolations
only His meditation, His reflection
are eternal, are benevolent

with the Word of the Guru
His immanence is manifest
His transcendence is felt
with the grace of the Guru
the devotee enjoys His presence
in earths, in heavens
in all spheres and stars
He is, He will ever be
the Lord of the universe

those who are stuck in dualities and divisions
are lost in the mire of ignorance
those who live with the Word of the Guru
are saved from the wrath of the demon of death
they are blessed by His reflection
by His meditation and perception ! (8)

with the grace of the Guru
there is the nectar of His perception
there is meditation, there is reflection

shed all your disguises, all your pretensions
they lead to the wilderness of the mind
to the suffering of the infernal grind
shed all wanderings in the universe of deception
peep into your heart for divine perception

shed all your sins and vices
to acquire serenity and reflection
discern the right from the wrong
to escape from the eternal cycle
shed all your lust and greed
shed all your dirty deeds
to meditate and reflect
to bathe in the sacred waters
to perceive the mystery of His universe
Nānak, with the grace of the Guru
with the Word of the Guru
there is divine truth, there is sublime refuge ! (9)

o devotee, be careful, your house is being burgled
do not look at others, mind your own business
look within, within the darkest alleys of the mind
seek the grace of the Guru
to perceive His truth
to reflect and articulate His Word
in the dark alleys of ignorance and indulgence
there is remorse, there is repentance
birth and death, growth and decay are in His will
the devotee enjoys His supreme bliss

those who live in His will
perceive His truth, His transcendence
those who are caught in the snares of māyā
are stuck in the mire of dualities and divisions
with the Word of the Guru
there is sublime perception
there is love and affection
Nānak, in the company of the seer and the sages
there is serenity, there is sublimity
the devotee vibrates with cosmic music
with the rhythms of His divinity ! (10)

as you sow, so do you reap
your deeds and dualities face the final judgement
dear friend, reflect on the nature of His universe
on the culture of His projections

there is none but the Sovereign Lord
in His immanence, in His manifestation
in His presence, in His omniscience

with the Word of the Guru
there is peace, there is serenity
the devotee drinks His divine nectar
there is love, there is tranquillity

hail the Lord of the universe
who is beyond all creation and consumption
who is beyond all illusions and delusions
under whose sublime light shines the whole universe
Nānak, with the grace of the Guru
the devotee enjoys His love, His affection
she vibrates in His presence ! (11)

in His will is all resonance, all music
in His will is all reflection, all perception

with the Word of the Guru
there is perception, there is reception
there are all the treasures of His projection
with the Word of the Guru
there is steady serenity
there is no place for clever chat and vanity

with the Word of the Guru
darkness recedes and light pervades
with the Word of the Guru
there is no fear of the demon of death, no decadence
with the Word of the Guru
there is love, there is union
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives His truth, His transcendence

Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
the devotee resonates with His love, with His affection ! (12)

RĀG SORAṬH
AṢṬPADĪÃ

all dualities and divisions are gone
all austerities and rituals on the graveyards are set aside
there is no more hunger or thirst
no greed, no lust
with the grace of the Guru
there is meditation, there is trust

with the Word of the Guru
there is steady serenity
there is light within
there is truth without
setting aside all austerities and yogic practices
the devotee lives in the service of the Guru
his mind is steady
his heart vibrates with His union
he resonates with the sublime rhythms of His communion

the ascetic who controls his mind
who disciplines his senses
acquires peace and serenity
he rises above all temptations
he spends his time in meditation, in reflection
with patience and temperance
he enjoys the nectar of truth
he sheds all dualities and divisions
all conflicts and confusions
he worships the one unique Lord
for His benediction, for His benevolence
the ignorant is stuck in his ignorance
the devotee reflects upon His omniscience
upon His transcendence

in meditation and reflection
the ascetic acquires the knowledge of the three worlds
he follows the dictates of his faith and fortitude
the ignorant suffers in the net of deceptions
the devotee is bestowed with His sublime perception

in His protection is His refuge
one can never articulate His truth
He is beyond all discipline
beyond all projection
with the grace of the Guru
there is union, there is knowledge
there is reflection, there is perception

in His will is all meditation, all articulation
in His will is all creation, all consumption
in the service of the Guru
is all grace, all benediction
in the service of the Guru
the devotee enjoys the nectar of His reflection

in His will the ascetic attains the threshold of divine perception
and enjoys the vibrations of the mystic reflection

Nānak, the true ascetic lives in His will
he follows the Word of the Guru
and fathoms the deepest layers of the cosmic universe ! (1)

our desires and dreams
our deeds and devotions
our sins and sufferance
our passions and indulgence
all lead the being astray
all vanish in a matter of days

o pundit, your deeds betray your intentions
your learned discourses disguise your contentions
as the insect dies in its own net
so the false prophet is caught in the mire of his own deceptions

bereft of the Word of the Guru
the beings are lost in the wilderness of the mind
in dualities and doubts, in conflicts and confusions
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no reflection, no light

with the grace of the Guru
the devotee escapes the eternal cycle
she perceives His truth and transcendence

with the Word of the Guru
there is steady serenity
there is unity, there is verity
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee follows the path of divinity

those who are stuck in lust and greed
they are lost for ever
they are drenched in poisonous deals

o pundit, we churn milk for butter
but the churning of sterile water yields nothing
the dirty deeds and deceptions yield nothing but dejection
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no reflection, no perception
this world is caught in the mire of deceptions
in the net of depressions and dejections
bereft of the Word of the Guru
there is no peace, no serenity
no reflection, no tranquillity

with the grace of the Guru
there is no fear, no ferment
there is no demon of death, no destruction
with the Word of the Guru
there is purity, there is piety
there are all the sacred baths, all the divine ceremonies
with the Word of the Guru
there is knowledge, there is perception
there is truth, there is transcendence

this body is the shop of a trader
where the diamond of reflection is sold
with the Word of the Guru
this reflection is projected
this diamond is acquired
Nānak, blessed is the trader
who trades in meditation
who reflects upon His truth
who lives in His divine refuge ! (2)

o dear friend, with the Word of the Guru
the devotee follows the righteous path
she sails through the river of life
she enjoys the nectar of truth
she lives in His refuge
bereft of His will and bliss
there is no crossing
there is no peace, no perception
with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
there is love and union
there is divine communion

hail the Lord of the universe
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives His truth and transcendence
there is discipline, there is temperance

in His will is all birth, all begetting
in His will the child rests with the head upturned
in His will are all deeds, all devotions
in His will are all judgements, all injunctions
in His will are all honours, all benevolence

in His will are all the snares of māyā
all dualities, all divisions
all temptations, all tribulations
in discerning His will
the devotee perceives His truth, His transcendence

hail the devotee
who spends her time in meditation and reflection
who lives in His truth
who enjoys His divine refuge

hail the scribe whose body serves as the paper
and the mind as the ink
who meditates and reflects
to discern and describe the divine mystery
whose tongue vibrates with His hymns
whose heart beats with His rhythms ! (3)

hail the Lord of the universe
for His benediction and benevolence
the being suffers in sins and indulgence
she prays for His protection, for His presence

the being is stuck in the net of illusions
in the infatuation of delusions
with the Word of the Guru
she discerns His truth
she acquires the knowledge of His mysterious universe

hail the Lord of the universe
for His beatitude and benevolence
the devotee prays for His truth, for His transcendence

hail the Lord of the universe
who surveys all earths and heavens
who is the light of all creatures
with the grace of the Guru
the devotee is bestowed with His benevolence
she follows Him in His transcendence

with water we wash away our dirt and delusions
with meditation we wash away our sins and illusions
in the depths of the waters of reflection
we acquire purity and perception
the idols of stones let you down
in the purifying waters they themselves drown

in His love, in His truth
the devotee vibrates with His love, with His union
with the resonance of His benevolence
with the light of His sublime presence

with the grace of the Guru
the devotee follows the divine light
with the grace of the Guru
the devotee swims across the river of life

as a spark of fire burns a heap of wood
so the meditation of a moment burns our sins and sufferance
with the grace of the Guru
there is benediction, there is benevolence ! (4)

RĀG SORAṬH
WĀR MAHALĒ CHAUTHĒ KĪ
SLOK MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ

the heart of the devotee
beats with the rhythmic music of Soraṭh
it vibrates with love and devotion
without fear or ferment
it perceives the truth of the Transcendent

in purity, piety and humility
the devotee leads a life of charity and devotion
she is resplendent in meditation and reflection

shedding all lust and greed
she lives with honesty and good deeds
shedding all temptations and passion
she lives in faith and fortitude
with the grace of the Guru
she is blessed with His benevolence and beatitude !

when the last hour strikes
some are burnt
others are buried
some are eaten
others are thrown in water
Nānak, in His will are creation and destruction
in His will are the final judgement and resurrection !

o pā̃ḍē, in His will is every action, every dispensation
as He wills, so it is received
as it is sown, so it is reaped
in His will, there is no fear, no ferment
our deeds and delusions await His judgement !

RĀG DHANĀSRĪ

DHANĀSRĪ MAHALĀ PAIHLĀ
CHAUPADĒ

I am afraid, I tremble before His majesty
I pray, I yearn for His benevolence
in His service, I lay at His feet
in servitude, I seek His blessing
He is the eternal benefactor
He eradicates all sins and suffering

o dear friend, meditate and reflect
to cross this fierce ocean of life
to acquire His bliss
to perceive His divine light

the Lord of the universe surveys His domain
with the grace of the Guru
there is love and devotion
there is divine refrain
with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation and reflection
there is divine perception ! (1)

what differentiates life from death is a moment of breath
Nānak prays to the Lord of the universe
who has bestowed us with this space of tranquillity
between the two thresholds of eternity
o ignorant being, reflect upon this transition
upon this short space of false ambition

this life, this body, this space
all depend upon His benediction
Nānak prays to the Lord of the universe
for His benevolence, for His protection
all depends upon our deeds and devotion
Nānak, in His will is all action, all dispensation

bereft of His grace and reflection
there is sin, there is sufferance
there is the eternal fear of the demon of death
there is eternal repentance
as long as we live in this world
we listen to learned discourses
we discern their verity
we perceive their universe

this life is only a transition
between the two thresholds of eternity
there is but a moment of reflection
a moment of serenity ! (2)

this restless mind cannot reflect, cannot perceive
in forgetfulness and oblivion
one cannot meditate, one cannot receive
o mother, how can I meet my Love, my Lord
whose mystery cannot be fathomed
whose horizons cannot be attained

rare is the devotee who discerns His discourse
who meditates and perceives the eternal truth
there is no place for false claims
for deceptive discourses
the devotee lives in His will for His benediction
for His benevolence

the Sovereign Lord surveys His universe
bereft of His bliss, there is no support, no hope
this life is a matter of days
none knows how long one stays
as He wills, so it is done
Nānak, bereft of His bliss
there is anguish, there is pain ! (3)

in His bliss there is meditation, there is reflection
the soul melts in His eternal projection
there is unity, there is purity
there is serenity, there is sublimity

with the Word of the Guru
the devotee discerns the mysteries of heart and hearth
there is no fear of derision or death
with the grace of the Guru
there is meditation, there is divine reflection
beyond illusion or delusion
there is eternal salvation

with the grace of the Guru
there is benediction, there is benevolence
beyond death or destruction
there is truth, there is transcendence

Nānak prays to the Lord of the universe
for His love, for His devotion
for the perception of the eternal mystery
for divine sublimation ! (4)

bereft of His grace, the restless soul suffers
caught in sins and vanity
it finds no peace, no serenity
bereft of meditation and reflection
there is depression, there is dejection

hail the Lord of the universe
who has endowed us with ears and eyes
with nose, tongue and mind
who is the divine benefactor
who is the sublime protector

this world is afflicted with greed, lust and passion
this world is afflicted with indulgence and infatuation
the being suffers from all the worldly ills
she cannot face the divine will

with the grace of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
with the grace of the Guru
there is no drowning, no indulgence
there is benediction, there is benevolence ! (5)

there is no reflection in deceit and deception
a thief's false piety does not mitigate his sins and sufferance
there is none to witness his projections
none to support his reception
o ignorant, foolish being
the truth will be revealed in divine perception

a thief is a thief in all garbs
his clever chat and his deceiving ways are of no avail
nothing can help him, none can save him
the truth is discerned immediately

as he actsS, so does he receive
as he sows, so does he reap
no deceit can alter the final judgement
no projection can change the final verity

hundreds of falsities cannot make one truth
in deception and pretension there is no refuge
Nānak, in His grace is all truth, all transcendence
in His grace is all benediction, all forgiveness ! (6)

on the paper of our body
the mind writes our deeds and deceptions
the ignorant, the fool knows not what is written, what is ordained
all actions, all articulations follow His dictate
the false and the true are differentiated
the right and the wrong are discerned
Nānak, the Lord perceives the nature of the gold and the stone
there is no deception, there is no selection

the qāzī leads a life of sin and sufferance
the brahman is caught in the net of māyā, in rites and rituals
the yogī knows not the yoga of life
he perceives not the divine light
a yogī is he who stays in discipline and devotion
who reflects and perceives His truth
a qāzī is he who is not deceived by falsities and factions
who follows the Word of the Guru
who discerns His truth and transcendence
a brahman is he whose rites and rituals are charged with devotion
who lives in charity, in divine sincerity
a sage is he who meditates and reflects
who perceives the divine truth and verity ! (7)

there is no yoga, no truth, no trust
all sacred places are polluted
the world is drowning in the dirt of delusions
there is ignorance, there are nothing but illusions
with closed eyes, with the pretensions of piety
the thugs loot the innocent people
holding their nose they indulge in breathing exercises
they pretend to know the mysteries of the universe
but they know not what happens in their courtyards
they know not all the dirt and deceptions
all the falsities of their actions

the khatrīs have abandoned their religion
they have adopted the language of their conquerors
the whole humanity is smothered
the world is bewildered
the learned discourses are delivered and the Vedas are recited
Nānak, bereft of His grace and benediction
there is no peace, no perception ! (8)

for the divine ārti, the divine worship
the skies serve as the vast plateau
where the sun and the moon
burn as two lamps
and the stars twinkle
to lit the sky

there is the incense of the woods
and the east and the west winds
sweep the extensive spaces
with the fragrance of the sublime gardens

what a wondrous spectacle it is
what splendid worship
of the Lord of hearts and hearths
all souls vibrate with cosmic music
all hearts respond to the celestial rhythm

there are millions of eyes
millions of forms
merged in one eternal form
there are millions of faces
millions of silhouettes
all form a part of the universal gaze

there are millions of lights within
pushing darkness into extreme recesses
the eternal lamp burns for ever
to worship the Lord of the universe

the little bird, papīhā, the being, is thirsty
longing for the nectar of the Guru
Nānak prays for universal peace and prosperity ! (9)

RĀG DHANĀSRĪ
AṢṬPADĪÃ

the Guru is the ocean of pearls
the ocean of wisdom and reflection
the seer and the sages follow the Word of the Guru
to comprehend the mystery of the universe
to discern and describe the divine discourse
they pick up the precious beads
the supreme thoughts
they are the swans of the Lord

the crane is stuck in its delusions
it dives deep in mud
it is lost in the mire of dirt and deception
the sage follows his Guru
he sheds all dualities and divisions

he meditates and reflects
with the grace of the Guru
he attains the divine perception
the swan stays in the ocean of the Guru
with meditation and reflection
he vibrates with His devotion
he is enlightened with His perception
with the grace of the Guru
he acquires His truth, His transcendence
the yogī sits in deep meditation
beyond class or creed
beyond gender or number
the light of the Lord surveys the entire universe
all gods, men, women, seers, sages are at His door
all yearn for His benevolence, for His support

He is the source of all serenity
H is the source of all sublimity
in His will is all reflection, all perception
in His will is all creation, all consumption
in His will the devotee sheds all conflicts and confusions
in His will the devotee is bestowed with His benediction

bereft of His grace there are deeds and deceptions
there are births and deaths, there is eternal cycle
there are dualities and division, there are conflicts and confusions
the restless souls are lost in eternal wilderness
those who stay in faith and fortitude
who follow His Word and beatitude
they are blessed by His grace and affection
they spend their life in meditation, in reflection

those who live in His will live in His bliss
there is steady serenity, there is divine purity
beyond all fear or ferment
beyond all illusions or delusions
there is truth, there is tranquillity

Nānak, with the grace of the Guru
with His benediction and benevolence
the devotee acquires His truth, His transcendence ! (1)

in meditation and reflection
there is peace, there is serenity
the devotee is blessed by the Lord
with piety, with sublimity
there is faith, there is fortitude
there is grace, there is beatitude
with the Word of the Guru
there is truth, there is temperance
there is benediction, there is benevolence

with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation, there is reflection
there is love, there is devotion
there is union, there is affection

His truth transcends body and mind
with His grace there is no final grind

with the Word of the Guru
there is service, there is serenity
there is sublime union
there is divine communion

in His immanence, in His manifestation
there is a sublime spectacle
there is no disguise, no deception
there is truth, there is divine perception
in His reflection, there is the nectar of devotion
in His meditation, there is sublimation

the learned discourses and debates
create dualities and divisions
conflicts and confusions
in serenity and discipline, in faith and fortitude
the devotee follows His Word, His truth

the worship of the idols, the pilgrimages
lead the being astray
with the mind drenched in dirt and deception
there is no purity, no serenity
there is no truth, no tranquillity

hail the Lord of the universe
whose reflection is sublime
who is, who will ever be
the anchor of the whole humanity

in whose benediction and benevolence
the devotee enjoys eternal sublimity
she resonates with His love and devotion
she vibrates with the divine rhythms

Nānak, in His will, in His bliss
there is purity and piety, there is serenity ! (2)

RĀG DHANĀSRĪ
CHHANT

with the grace of the Guru
with the Word of the Guru
there are sacred baths
there are pilgrimages
there is meditation, there is reflection
there is divine perception

in His will, in His bliss
there is benediction, there is benevolence
there is sublime purity
there is divine serenity

in His truth and transcendence
there is devotion, there is reflection
there is no pride, no pretence
no dirt, no deception
no sins, no sufferance

in His will, in His bliss
is the divine company of the seers and the sages
there is cosmic music, there is love and union
there is benediction, there is communion

there is the union of all the rivers of life
the devotee perceives the divine light

in His will, in His bliss
the devotee is immersed in mediation and reflection
He is the Sovereign of the cosmic horizons
beyond all thresholds of earths and heavens
He is the ultimate will, the ultimate bliss
the devotee resonates with His divine rhythms

with the Word of the Guru
the innocent, the ignorant perceive His truth
with the Word of the Guru
there is serenity
there is divine refuge

with the Word of the Guru
the sinners are saved
they are blessed by His benediction
by His benevolence

Nānak prays to the Lord of the universe
for His love and affection
for His divine perception ! (1)

the devotee lives in His reflection
she enjoys His truth, His transcendence
with the Word of the Guru
there is meditation, there is divine perception

in His will is all creation, all consumption
in His will is all birth, all death
all construction, all destruction
He is beyond all reach or reaction
all limits, all selections

hail the Sovereign of the universe
hail the divine sublimity
in His will is the eternal cycle
in His will is the eternal salvation

with the Word of the Guru
there is no duality, no division
no conflict, no confusion
in the company of the seers and the sages
there is serenity, there is divine perception

hail the Sovereign of the universe
in whose will is all reflection, all projection
who is the measure of all treasure
who discerns the right from the wrong
the false from the true
in His will is peace and indulgence
in His will is sin and sufferance
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is truth, there is transcendence

with the Word of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception
the devotee resonates with the divine Word
her heart beats with the divine rhythms
with meditation and reflection
her pride recedes, se is steady and serene

Nānak, the devotee adorns His court
there is divine resonance, there is cosmic hold

with the grace of the Guru
there is no illusion, no delusion
with the Word of the Guru
there is no conflict, no confusion
there is truth, there is transcendence

day and night the cosmos vibrates with the divine hymns
there is divine music, there are sublime rhythms
in His will there is no pride, no prejudice
there is truth and transcendence

Nānak, there is nectar in divine reflection
all thirst is quenched
there is sublime perception ! (2)

the devotee is unaware of the presence of her Love
her deeds let her down
what is ordained will happen
when the last hour strikes
when the old deeds take over
it is too late to repent
youth and wealth give no support
in dirt and delusions, there is no hope
Nānak, bereft of meditation, bereft of reflection
there is no serenity, no perception

with the grace of the Guru
the devotee vibrates with His love, with His devotion
there is peace, there is prosperity
there is purity, there is piety

with the Word of the Guru
the devotee perceives the transition of life
she meditates in steady serenity
there is reflection and devotion
there is meditation and divine light

with the Word of the Guru
there is no duality, no delusion
no conflict, no confusion
Nānak, with the Word of the Guru
there is benediction, there is benevolence
there is truth, there is transcendence

with the grace of the Guru
there is love, there is union
there is honour, there is communion

bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no meditation, no reflection
bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is deception, there is dejection
Nānak, bereft of the grace of the Guru
there is no peace, no perception

with the grace of the Guru
the devotee vibrates with His love
she lives in purity, in piety
she sheds all falsehood, all pretensions
she leads her life in meditation, in reflection
she radiates with love, with devotion
with the Word of the Guru
the devotee discerns His projection

Nānak, in His truth and transcendence
there is love and union
there is sublime communion ! (3)

RĀG TILANG

RĀG TILANG
CHAUPADĒ

the devotee prays to the Lord of the universe
for His truth, for His transcendence
for His benediction, for His benevolence

this world is mortal, a matter of days
Azrail, the messenger of death
holds the victim with his hair
there is no pity, no repair
family and friends do no help
when the last hour strikes
when death is announced
there is none to stop the march of time

day and night
all his life
the being is involved in evil deeds
bereft of virtue and wisdom
the being is led astray
drenched in dirt and squalor
there is death and decay

Nānak prays to the Lord of the universe
for the dust of the feet of His devotees
for His benediction and benevolence ! (1)

in fear and ferment
in conflict and confusion
the devotee prays to the Lord of the universe
for His benediction and benevolence

the devotee pleads, seeks His blessing
she prays for charity, for serenity
with the purity of meditation
with deep reflection
with sublime perception
with the fragrance of sandal
she worships the Lord

Nānak prays to the Lord of the universe
for His truth and transcendence
for His benediction and benevolence ! (2)

in greed and lust
in dualities and divisions
in conflicts and confusions
in the illusions of māyā
the being is drenched in dirt and delusions
there is no peace, no serenity
no reflection, no tranquillity

with meditation and reflection
with the grace of the Guru
there is reflection, there is perception
there is honour, there is reception

those who are dyed in the colour of love and devotion
they live in His presence
Nānak prays for the dust of the feet of those devotees

in His will is love, in His will is devotion
Nānak, in His will is presence
in His will is benevolence ! (3)

o ignorant young girl
shed all pride and prejudice
and dwell deep into your heart
to feel the divine rhythms of His love
to vibrate with His devotion, with His affection

o ignorant young girl
your search is in vain
your love is within you
within the inner layers of your heart

to be, to become the beloved of the Sovereign of the universe
shed all fear and ferment
stay steady and serene
to discern His discourse
to follow His coarse

o ignorant young girl
do not waste your time
in frivolities and divisions
in conflicts and confusions
in reticence and repentance
it all depends upon His benediction, His benevolence

in ignorance, in pride, in prejudice
there is no love, no presence

ask your friends
how they pleased their Love
how their hearts beat in His presence
shed all evil thoughts and deeds
shed all dualities and divisions
to meditate and reflect
to attain your Love
to attain His trust

in His will is all love, all union
in His will is all devotion, all communion
in clever chat and pretension
there is no peace, no reflection

in His bliss there are deeds and devotion
Nānak, in His love and affection
there is beauty, there is beatitude
there is reflection, there is truth ! (4)

as my Lord ordains
so do I articulate, O Lalo

the conqueror descended from Kabul
with the armies drenched in blood and deception
this marriage party of evil and vice
forced populace for dowry and donation

all virtues and wisdom have vanished
deceits and deceptions rule the roost
the qāzīs and the brahmans have fled
the devils read the holy books
the Muslim women are crying for Allah
the Hindus have joined their prayers and lamentation
Nānak, drenched in blood, the poor sing the hymns of love
and instead of camphor, O Lalo
blood is poured in anguish and sufferance
Nānak prays to the Lord of the universe
for His bliss, for His benevolence

in this city replete with corpses
there is conflict, there is confusion
the Creator knows His creation
its purpose, its projection
its deeds, its deceptions

He is the true Lord
the Lord of truth and transcendence

how long this carnage would continue ?
how long there will be merciless sufferance ?

this country is torn and withered
the years seventy-eight and ninety-seven would come and go
and another conqueror will descend upon my countrymen
another son of man will rise to the occasion
Nānak proclaims this truth
and will continue to do so
whenever and wherever it finds its refuge ! (5)

hail the Creator of the universe
who knows His creation
who transcends its projections
with the grace of the Guru
there is reflection, there is divine perception

bereft of His grace
there is remorse, there is repentance
when the last hour strikes
when the night of life is over
there is mourning, there is dejection
with the grace of the Guru
the devotee finds peace and devotion

those who meditate and reflect
who perceive His truth, His transcendence
they are blessed by the Lord, they are virtuous
they enjoy His benediction, His benevolence

their path is the righteous path
the path of love and union

those who live in His will
in His fear and ferment
in His love and affection
they enjoy His audience
their hearts beat with His presence

those who spend their time in meditation and reflection
who resonate with His love and devotion
they are blessed by the Lord
they enjoy divine sublimation
as a metal set on fire melts another
so with love and affection there is eternal union

only a connoisseur recognises the right path
only a gifted gardener knows his plant

Nānak, with the grace of the Guru
the devotee enjoys the nectar of His union
in meditation and reflection, she perceives His truth
her restless mind finds divine refuge ! (6)